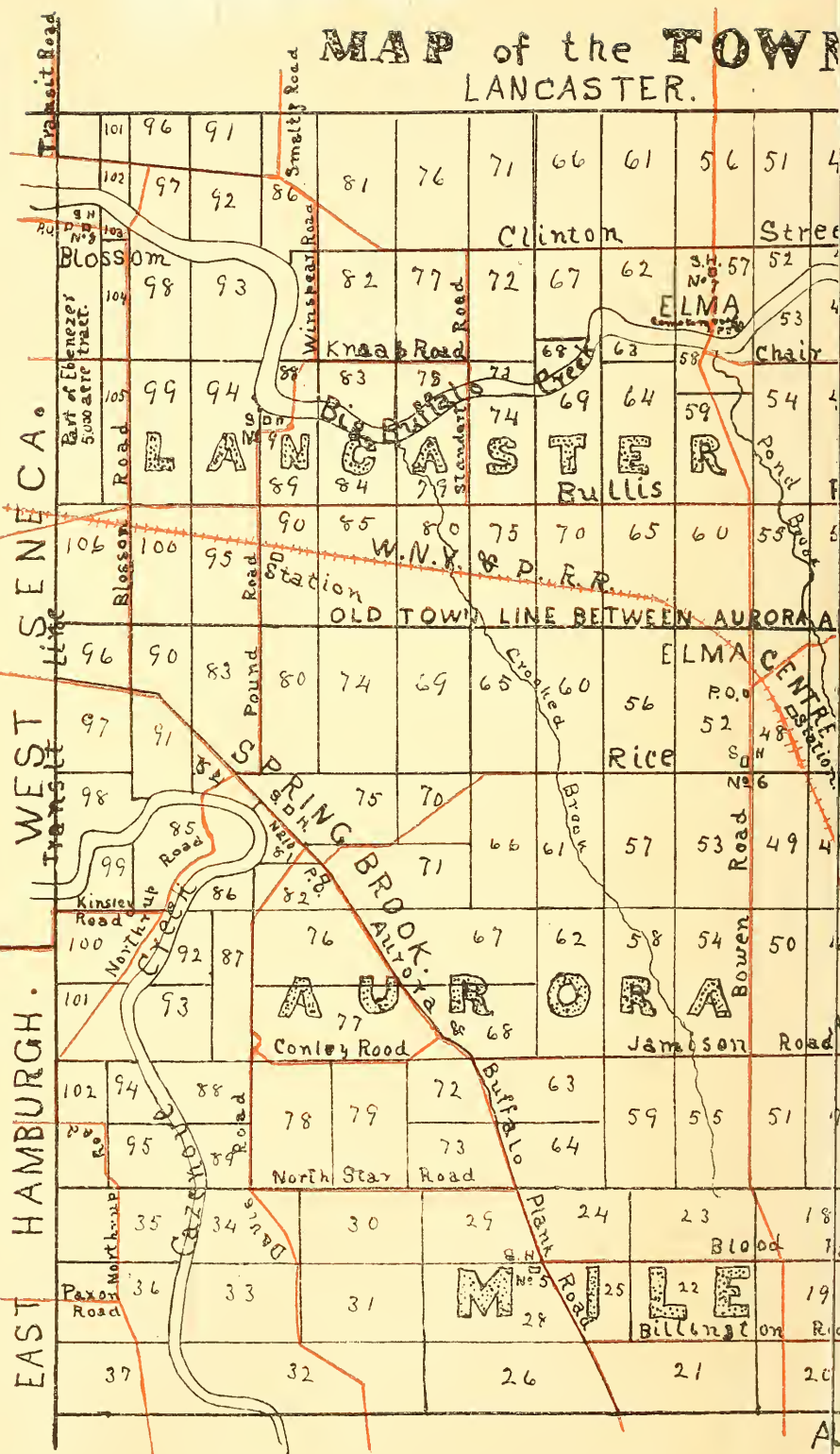


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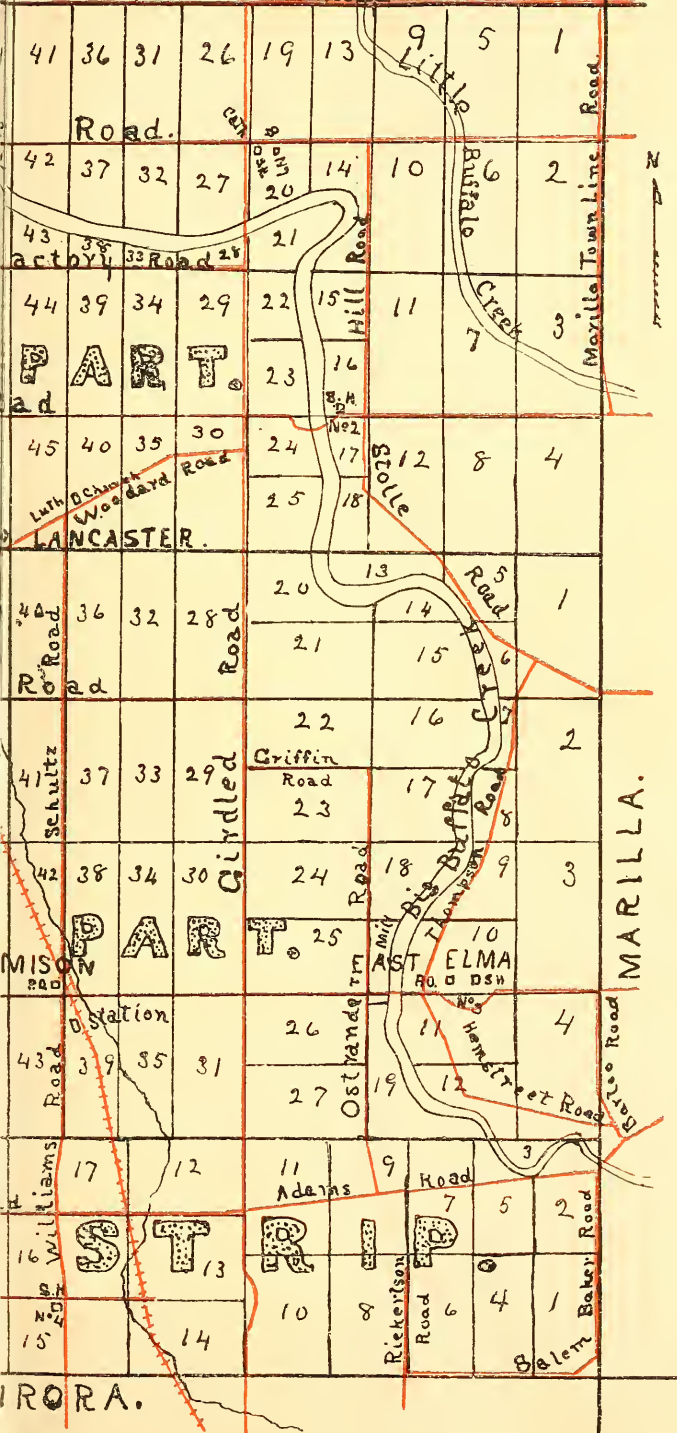


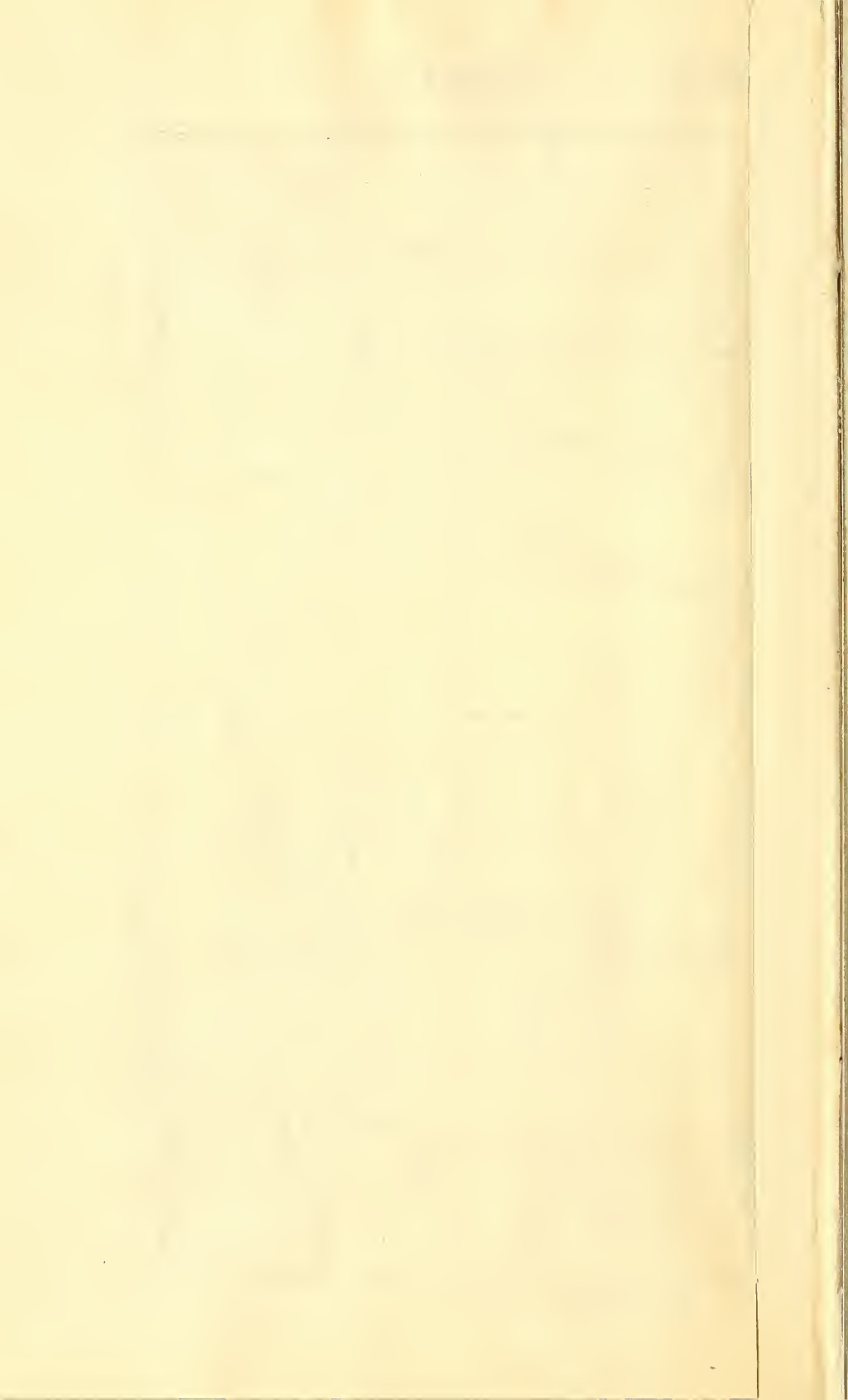
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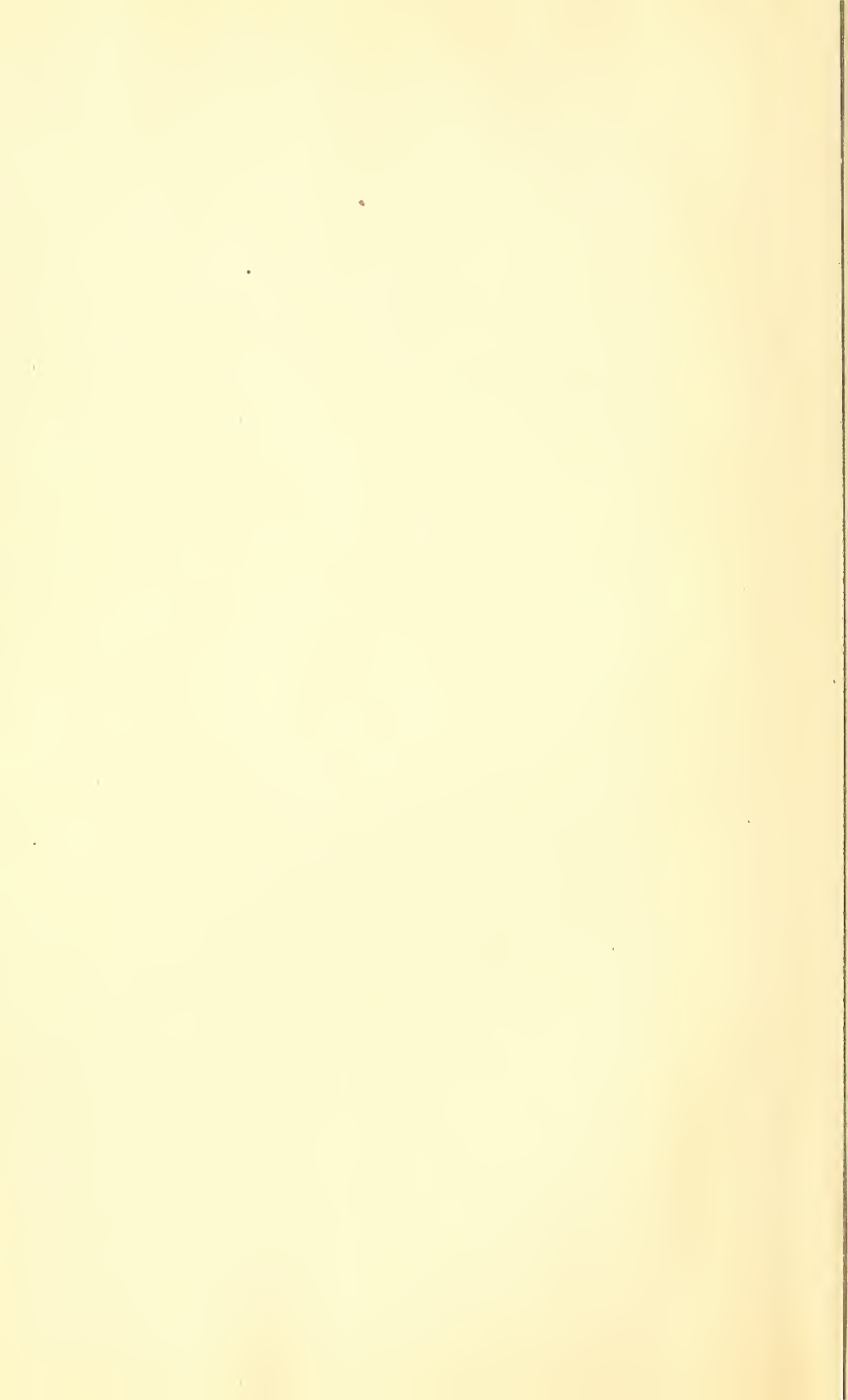
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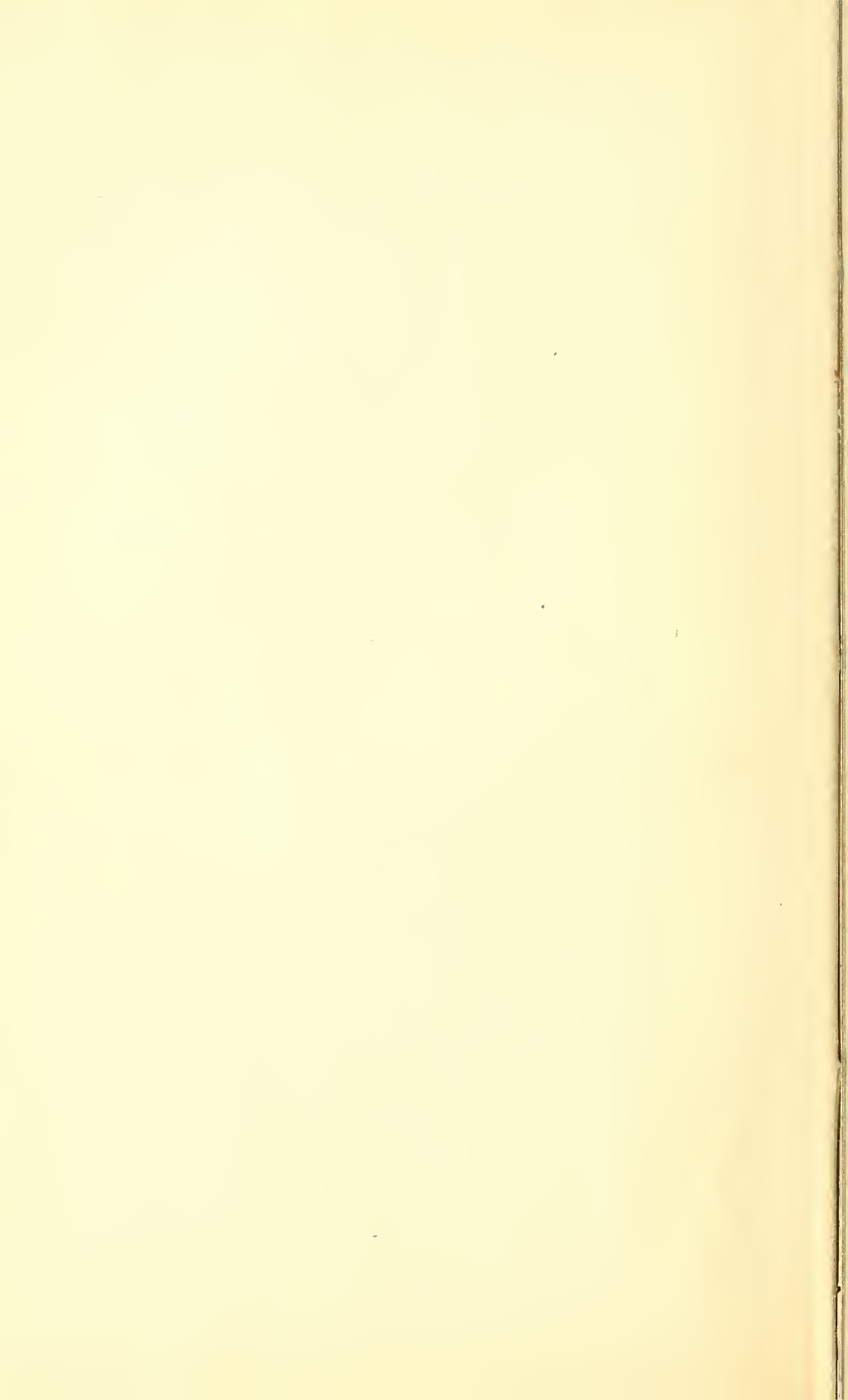








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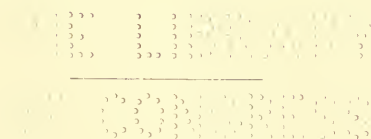


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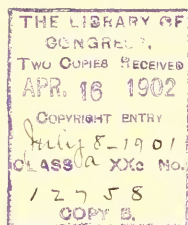
ERIE COUNTY, N. Y.

1620 TO 1901

By WARREN JACKMAN



BUFFALO:  
PRINTED BY G. M. HAUSAUER & SON  
1902



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## TO THE PEOPLE OF ELMA

When I commenced to write the History of the Town of Elma, there was no thought of financial compensation, or that it would ever be printed; but to please friends and to secure some records and items that might be helpful to some future writer of history.

I now make to the people of the town of Elma a free gift of the time, thought, study, and labor, which in the last four years have been devoted to gathering the information, arranging the items, and writing this history; trusting that a generous public will not be too severe in criticising the errors and omissions.

WARREN JACKMAN.

Elma, N. Y., Feb., 1902.





## DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to James T. Hurd, James A. Woodard, Myron H. Clark and Louis P. Reuther, a Committee on Printing and Finance, who assumed the obligation to pay all bills for printing and expenses; without this generous act on their part the probabilities are the History of the Town of Elma would never have been printed.

THE AUTHOR.



## INTRODUCTION

Histories of nations and states, and even of some counties and cities are at hand in most of our public and private libraries; but a history of a town is not often to be found. Why is this? Is it because such a history is not necessary; because of the small area of territory; of the small and scattered population; of the ignorance, poverty, want of enterprise among the people; of the small importance attached to the growth and development of the town, and the events to be mentioned; or is it because no person or persons have been able or willing to devote the necessary time to gather the facts and so arrange them as to make a history? This, last, is most likely the true reason.

Many times within the last twelve or fifteen years I have been entreated by several of my neighbors to write a history of the town of Elma. My reply "that I was not a historian," was met with the statement, "that being one of the early settlers in the town (coming in the spring of 1851), and having surveyed every road and almost every lot in the town, having been the first Town Clerk, after the formation of the town, and continuing as such Clerk for three years, thus becoming acquainted with every man then residing in the town, and having in my possession and within my reach books and papers that no other person in the town had, or could have, that I ought to give this information to the people, in the form of a history of the town of Elma."

After much thought and with many doubts and fears, at seventy-five years of age, being too old to be engaged at continuous hard labor, and thinking this might give employment for a few leisure hours I consented to write one chapter as an experiment; with the agreement that I should read that chapter at a meeting of the "Young People's Association of Elma Village." I thought when that chapter was read they would be satisfied that writing history was not in my line and that would close up the matter.

According to agreement I wrote what is here given as Chapter One, and read it before the Association on the evening of March 18th, 1897; but instead of saying that was enough, I was urged to go on and write a complete history of the town.

So I commenced on Chapter Two, thinking that it would take but a few pages to mention all that would be of interest, as the town had been organized but a few years; but I found that the recording of one incident introduced another that required men-

tioning, and that another, and so there grew to be a wider and more extended range of subjects, and so the work has been continued until some of the incidents of the year 1901 are mentioned.

I have consulted, as helps in obtaining facts for this work, histories and encyclopedias as to the early settlement of the country, the histories of the Civil War by J. T. Headley and Horace Greeley; and for other parts of the work, I have used the records in the Erie County Clerk's Office, the Records in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Erie County, N. Y., and of the Town Clerk's office of the town of Elma.

In addition to the above, from my own personal knowledge, (having kept a diary for many years) and from information obtained by correspondence and from persons who were on the ground and who knew whereof they spoke I have gathered and arranged the facts here presented.

Among the persons who have been consulted and from whom very much valuable information has been obtained, they being, or having been, most of them, residents of the town of Elma, and many of them having been among the first or early settlers of the town, and to whom I am under many obligations, and to whom I hereby tender especial thanks for the help they have rendered, are the following, viz.:

Mr. Chester Adams,	Mr. W. Wesley Standart,
Mr. John Quincy Adams,	Mr. Benjamin F. Stetson,
Mr. Harry Dingman,	Mr. Julius P. Wilder,
Mr. Edwin H. Dingman,	Mr. Thomas D. Williams,
Mr. William H. Davis,	Rev. William Waith,
Mr. John Estabrook,	Mrs. Wm. Baker (nee Lucia A.
Mr. Willard Fairbanks,	Morris) daughter of David J.
Mr. Wallace W. Fones,	Morris,
Mr. Joseph Grace,	Mrs. Daniel Ronian (nee Betsey
Mr. James J. Grace,	Hatch) daughter of Leonard
Mr. George W. Hatch,	Hatch,
Mr. Niles Hatch,	Mr. and Mrs. Jos. B. Briggs,
Mr. Conrad P. Hensel,	Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo C. Bancroft,
Mr. Cyrus Hurd,	Mr. and Mrs. John Carman,
Mr. Harry Jones,	Mr. and Mrs. Scott Fairbanks,
Mr. Jacob Koek,	Mr. and Mrs. Wm. W. Grace,
Mr. George Leger,	Mr. and Mrs. Clark W. Hurd,
Mrs. Erastus J. Markham,	Mr. and Mrs. Fowler Munger,
Mr. Eli B. Northrup,	Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Tillou,
Mr. Stephen Northrup,	Mr. and Mrs. James H. Ward,
Mr. Harvey C. Palmer,	Mr. and Mrs. Dennis L. Wilson,
Mr. Christopher Peek,	Mr. and Mrs. Eron Woodard,
Mr. John Scott,	Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Young.



While I have been able to obtain much information from the above mentioned sources, there have been many incidents and conditions in the town of Elma within the last 70 years which would be of much interest to particular individuals and communities, and which would make large additions to this history could they have been obtained; but it was practically impossible for me to personally see and interview every person or family in the town and to thus obtain these items, so I have been obliged to omit that part which, however, may be written by some historian in later years.

Some may say that there is much that is no part of, and has nothing to do with the town of Elma; while admitting that these parts may not be absolutely necessary, there is such a strong connecting link, that I thought it would make the whole chain more complete. It may be said that to some parts of the town more space is given, more items and incidents are mentioned than to other portions. To a certain extent this may be true, as in some parts of the town information was more readily given; and as great changes have been made in the resident population of the town, it was, in some places impossible to obtain the desired items, or to obtain correct and reliable information on the points desired.

In the History more than 8,000 times are individuals, places, subjects, and incidents mentioned, each having required from ten minutes to five or six hours of time.

When I first consented to commence this work had I realized the amount of time, labor and thought that would be required to obtain and arrange the items, and write the History, it is very likely that the Lion in the way would have appeared so large and terrible that I would have never begun the work; but I have always found the Lion securely chained, and the way open for my escape.

I have learned that the hardest thing to find in this world is exact truth; especially is this the case when the investigation has reference to incidents of past time; to the time whose actors are dead, and whose direct testimony cannot be obtained. To deal with these questions, and to get the truth when the opinions of the living conflict, becomes to the writer of history a matter of no small moment, and requires much thought and labor.

Perfection in the works of man being so exceedingly rare, and because of the inability to obtain at times the desired information, I cannot claim that this History in all its parts, is *entirely* perfect. That there may be found slight inaccuracies, and what some will say are errors or mistakes, is more than probable; but with the light, knowledge and help that has been within my reach, I have tried to reduce these to the lowest possible limit.

## PLAN OF THE HISTORICAL PART

The first settlement in the town having been made on the Mile Strip (see Map), followed by settlements at East Elma and vicinity, at Elma Village and vicinity, and at Spring Brook and vicinity, a chapter has been devoted to each of these places from the date of settlement to the time the town was formed, December 4th, 1856; from that date the whole town is carried along together, year by year, to the close of the year 1900: my thought being to close the historical part with that date, but later I decided to add some of the incidents of the year 1901 in the town as an Appendix.

See table of contents for the subject matter and page of each Chapter.

Mention of any person, place or event can be readily found by the Index in the last part of the book.

WARREN JACKMAN.

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## ERRATA

On page 122 the 14th line from the top *track* should be *tract*.

On page 152 the 18th line from the bottom 1836 should be 1863.

On page 177 the 13th line from the top *Smith* should be *Scott*.

## CHAPTER I.

### GEOGRAPHY OF THE TOWN OF ELMA.



**W**HAT is History?

History is the record of important events so arranged as to show the changes that have taken place, and to consider the causes that have operated to produce these results.

In the town of Elma, State of New York, and the United States, its territory, matters of government, political influence, agriculture, arts, manufactures, commerce, wealth, etc., etc.—have these always been as we see them today? If not, then there have been changes, and these have been produced by certain causes. A record of these general and local incidents is our history.

The town of Elma is in the centre of the county of Erie, in the State of New York, in the United States of North America. A history of the town of Elma is therefore a history of a part of the County of Erie, and of a part of the State of New York, and also a history of a part of the United States.

As a corollary—the history of the United States is, in part, a history of the town of Elma.

The history of any region, nation, or locality, properly begins with its original inhabitants, with mention of the earliest events and incidents, which later on work out results which bring that particular region into prominence. Then follows the life work in detail. So the history of the United States usually begins with an account of the earliest discoveries of the American Continent, and the claims to territory by Spain, France, England and Holland, with their efforts to plant colonies; and thus by possession, to hold the territory they each claimed.

More than four hundred years have passed since Christopher Columbus made his first voyage of discovery.

It took the nations of Europe one hundred and thirty years to plant four colonies as permanent settlements in what is now the United States.



## INFANT PERIOD OF THE COLONIES.

The infant period of this country was begun by these early settlements; and the Pilgrims, on November 11th, 1620, before leaving the May Flower gave in their Constitution the key note or outbreathing of a spirit that was to grow and increase, until all the colonies should be permeated with its principles.

No magic wand was at that time passed over this land to suddenly transform the wilderness into the rich and prosperous country as we now see it. Instead, these changes came through years of toil, hardship, privations, suffering, massacres, oppression, wars and long waiting. The difficulties with which the colonies had to contend—wars with the French and Indians; troubles with Great Britain which culminated in the Revolutionary war; the trials, dangers and doubts which attended the Confederacy; and later, the formation of a government by the adoption of the Constitution of United States in 1787, required all the wisdom and sagacity of the best statesmen the world ever knew to save the country from total wreck. This constituted the infant period of one hundred and seventy years of this nation. Then Brother Jonathan, or Uncle Sam, had reached the stature of a full grown man, ready to do business, and the United States became, in fact, one of the nations of the earth. The young man has been doing a prosperous business for more than one hundred years.

As patriotic citizens, we all love our country and have admiration and respect almost to reverence for all those persons who took such active parts in the early period of our history; and we take a great interest in all the events that have, to this date, worked together during these two hundred and eighty years, which has brought us from a wilderness inhabited by roving tribes of savages, into the possession of a continent extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the great lakes and Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, with more than seventy-six millions of people, and with all the vast resources and possibilities which have made us a great and prosperous and influential nation; the wonder and admiration of statesmen everywhere, and the leader among the nations of the earth.

We have in the well written histories of our country a full narrative of all these events and incidents with causes and results in minute detail; and as the history of the United States in general, is, in part, a history of the town of Elma, it is not necessary in writing a history of this town to mention these separate incidents only so far as they have a direct relation to this particular locality.

The name, Elma, was given to this town in December, 1856, when the town was formed from Lancaster and Aurora. The early his-

tory commenced many years before that date, and it may be well to here state that the name, "Town of Elma," and the local names as now known will be applied to any event affecting this locality, whether it has reference to a time before or after the actual organization of the town.

### **BOUNDARY.**

The town of Elma lies a little northeast of the centre of the County of Erie, in the State of New York and is bounded on the north by Lancaster, east by Marilla, south by Aurora, and west by East Hamburg and West Seneca, and is six miles in extent, east and west, about five and two-thirds miles north and south and contains twenty-one thousand three hundred and ninety acres of land for assessment of taxes, and is known on deeds and legal papers as a part of the Buffalo Creek Reservation, and also as Town 10, Range 6 of the Holland Land Company Surveys.

### **TOPOGRAPHY.**

No causes are known, or are supposed to have existed since the Glacial Period, that would produce any general or local changes in the face of the country in this locality. We may therefore conclude that the hills, the plains and the valleys are today practically as they have been for hundreds, and possibly thousands of years.

### **STREAMS.**

The principal streams in the town are the Little Buffalo, the Big Buffalo, the Cazenove Creeks and Pond Brook.

The Little Buffalo Creek enters the town from Marilla about one and one-half miles south from the northeast corner of Elma, in a channel about twenty feet wide and three to five feet deep in a valley sixty to eighty rods wide; has a general northwest course and passes into Lancaster about seven-eighths of a mile west from the northeast corner of Elma. The valley through which this stream flows is sixty to eighty feet below the general level of the country, with steep bluffy sides or banks.

The Big Buffalo Creek crosses the town line from Marilla about three-fourths of a mile north from the southeast corner of Elma in a channel eighty to one hundred and twenty feet wide and six to ten feet deep. This is a very crooked stream, its general, tortuous course being northwest for about one mile, thence northerly through East Elma, and on for about three and one-half miles, thence westerly four and one-half miles passing through Elma village, thence north-westerly one and one-fourth miles through Blossom, into

West Seneca about one-third of a mile south from the northwest corner of the town of Elma. The valley of this stream is sixty to one hundred rods wide with steep banks, generally perpendicular walls of shale on one or the other side. The bed of the stream is thirty to eighty feet below the surrounding country.

The Cazenove Creek, named for Theophilus Cazenove, agent for the Holland Land Company, crosses the Aurora town line about one mile east from the southwest corner of Elma, in a channel eighty to one hundred feet wide, and six to ten feet deep, takes a general north course for two and one-half miles to Spring Brook, thence westerly one mile crossing into West Seneca about two and one-half miles north from the southwest corner of Elma. The valley of this stream is sixty to one hundred rods wide, with generally steep banks sixty to one hundred feet high and perpendicular walls of shale on one or the other side.

Pond Brook has its name from large ponds at its head, which are in the town of Aurora just across the Elma town line and about one and one-half miles west from the northeast corner of Aurora. The general course of this brook is west of north for five miles, when it enters the Big Buffalo Creek at Elma village. Its channel is eight to twenty feet wide and two to four feet deep in a valley six to twenty rods wide, with banks eight to forty feet high.

#### GEOLOGY.

The lowest rocks are the Hamilton Shales succeeded by Tully limestone and Genesee slate.

The Hamilton Shales form the bed and banks of the Big Buffalo Creek from the west line of the town to where the Bullis Mills were located; the bed of Pond Brook, from the Big Buffalo Creek to where the William Standart saw mill was built, just north from the Bullis Road, and the bed and walls of the Cazenove Creek from the west line of the town to the Northrup Mills at Spring Brook.

The Tully limestone, so called because it is found near the top of the hills in the town of Tully in the south part of Onondaga County, is also called encrinal limestone because of the great number of fossil remains of Ecerinites, the joints and stems of which are small calcareous disks, sometimes called fossil button moulds. This Limestone crops out in the Cazenove Creek at the Northrup mills, and in Pond Brook just north of the Bullis Road, and again in the Big Buffalo Creek just north or below the Bullis Bridge.

The Genesee slate, lying immediately above the Tully limestone, forms the bed and walls of the Big Buffalo and Cazenove Creeks above the points named to the south and east parts of the town and frequently crops out on the hillsides in those places.

A ridge or elevation ten to twenty feet high extends in a north-east and southwest direction across the town a little north of the centre. That portion of the town lying north of this ridge is the same nearly level portion of the county that extends east and north from Buffalo, and in Elma is broken only by the valley of the Big Buffalo Creek and the gullies caused by its small branches. The soil is a clayey loam, resting on the Hamilton shales. South of this ridge the surface becomes more rolling; the highest hills in the southeast part of the town being one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet above the beds of the streams. The soil in this hilly part of the town is a drift formation of gravel and loose boulders. The soil in the valleys of the stream is alluvium.

### FOREST.

This town was probably for many centuries, and to a time within the remembrance of many persons now living, a dense forest or wilderness with a very heavy growth of timber and was the home of wild animals and the wilder tribes of savages called Indians.

### TIMBER.

The principal varieties of timber may be given as white and yellow pine, hemlock, white, red and black oak, white and black ash, sugar, rock, and white or soft maple, black walnut, butternut, shell bark hickory, basswood, whitewood, cucumber, bitternut, black cherry, iron wood and birch.

Pine and oak were found principally in the eastern, southern and central parts of the town. The other varieties were common everywhere.

It is only within the last few years that a white man has lived within the limits of the town.

### INDIANS.

About thirty families of Indians were the only residents. These had their homes on the flats of the Big Buffalo and Cazenove Creeks or on the high banks near these streams. It was on these flats that they had small clearings of three or four acres on which they raised corn, beans, and gourds. The balance of their living they obtained by hunting and fishing and from the whites in the adjoining towns.

These Indians have a history; and as they were the original owners and occupants of the lands, it is proper that we take them in review and in the next chapter give them a little notice as to their traditions, their history as we know it, their living here and finally, their selling out and moving away, giving place to the present residents of the town of Elma.



## CHAPTER II.

### NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS.

**W**HEN the American Continent was first discovered, the voyagers everywhere, north, south, and east, on the coast, and in the interior, found the country occupied by a people they called Indians.

These Indians were generally roving tribes, changing their places of residence as wars or hunting made the change necessary. A few of the tribes were permanently located, had villages, cleared fields and orchards, and some of the villages were enclosed with palisades as a protection against any attacking enemy.

The State of New York, except what is now Erie and Chautauqua counties and the southeast corner of the State was claimed and occupied by five tribes, viz: Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas; known the world over as the Iroquois or Five Nations.

The Mohawks had their principal villages on the Mohawk River; their territory embracing the northern and eastern part of the State.

The Oneidas lived on and near Oneida Lake. The Onondagas occupied the territory around Onondaga Lake. The Cayugas had their villages around Cayuga Lake. The Senecas before 1780 had their chief village, Kan-a-de-sa-ga, just west of the present site of Geneva, at the foot of Seneca Lake. They were the most numerous, powerful and warlike of the Five Nations.

The question has often been asked: "When did these five tribes obtain possession of so much territory?"

### ONONDAGA AND SENECA TRIBES.

History tells us that when Champlain, the French explorer, came from Montreal into Lake Ontario and up the Oswego River in July, 1609, he found the Onondagas in full possession of all that country, and when the French first came to the Niagara River they found the Senecas there; but when they reached Lake Erie they found a small tribe at the foot of the Lake to which they gave

the name of Neuters; and on the south shore of the Lake were the Erie or Cat Indians.

The Neuters and Eries were overpowered by the Senecas in a war between them about 1645, and the result was that the Senecas came into possession of all the land and villages of the defeated tribes.

Some nations which have had no written language by which to keep a record of important events, have used pictures or characters as emblems carved on stone or metals. Other nations have made characters or figures of some sort on blocks of soft clay which when baked, become indestructible. These are now being found in excavations and ruins of long lost and buried cities in the east.

Other nations not so far advanced in civilization [the American Indians belonging to this class] have kept in remembrance some of their most important events by tradition; parents telling the story to their children and friends, and so on through many generations.

It is not at all strange that these stories from being told and retold many times may, in some respects, become changed and so tradition, as a rule, must be taken as rather uncertain and unsatisfactory evidence; but the main or leading thought can always be found.

#### TRADITIONS.

The Onondagas and the Senecas were the only tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy that had any tradition of anything prior to the settlements made by the whites.

The traditions of the Iroquois nation since Champlain came into their country in 1609, accord exactly with the history that we have of them; and as there is this agreement between our history and their traditions so long as we have known them, it is fair to infer that their earlier traditions are nearly correct; and as they furnish the only, and therefore the best evidence we can obtain, we are obliged to accept these traditions as approximately correct.

The Onondaga tradition is that they were the oldest if not the mother tribe of the Five Nations.

That several hundred years before they ever saw a white man, they lived in Canada; and being defeated in wars with a superior tribe, they fled in boats across Lake Ontario and up the Oswego River to Onondaga Lake where they stopped. Here they lived and as they increased in numbers and extended their settlements, they found fortified villages of inhabitants who were acquainted with agriculture and had cultivated fields and orchards whom they overpowered and took possession of their lands.

They called them Mound Builders. The Onondagas have no tradition as to the time they overpowered this people, or as to the



time when they organized their system of clans, or when they formed their confederacy of the Five Nations, all of which may have been 600 or 1000 years ago. We learn by this tradition that these Mound Builders were here before the Onondagas came from Canada. It is not necessary to follow their tradition since 1609, as we have a written history since that time. The Onondagas being the central tribe and probably the original stock of the Iroquois, to them was entrusted the care of the sacred council fires, and upon their territory were held the great councils of the Nation to decide all questions of great importance, wars, peace and all matters of general policy and interest.

The Seneca traditions make no mention of their coming from another country but that they broke out of the earth from a large mountain at the head of Canandaigua Lake. Thence they derive their name, "Ge-nun-de-wah," or Great Hill, and are called the Great Hill People.

They have a tradition that before and for some time after their origin at Ge-nun-de-wah, the country about the lakes and far away was thickly inhabited by a race of civil, enterprising and industrious people who had cultivated fields and large villages, and that they were totally destroyed by a great serpent, which also destroyed nearly all of the Senecas, only enough of whom were spared to replenish their tribe.

Mary Jemison, also called the White Woman, of whom we shall have more to say later on, thus gives the Seneca tradition of a people who were here before they came and, no doubt, they were the same people referred to in the Onondaga tradition, and the same race that have left mounds and forts all through the country from the Mississippi River to central New York. The tradition that they, the Senecas, broke out of the earth from a large mountain, probably refers to the fact that they settled there and built a fort on the top of the mountain, thus making it their home village.

We can hardly imagine what the serpent was that, they say, destroyed all the people who were there before they came, and which came so near destroying them also; producing such widespread desolation, unless it might have been some plague or contagious disease.

### **MOUND BUILDERS.**

These Mound Builders left nothing whereby their history can be learned, and only by the traditions of these two tribes of the Iroquois, have we any intimation so as to enable us to even guess when they lived there—whether six hundred or two thousand years ago.

Two of these mounds or forts are on the tops of two hills near the northeast corner of the town of Aurora, and two were on Lot 2 in this town of Elma on land now owned by Mr. William V. Lougee, where several years ago in leveling the banks which comprised the fort, parts of several skeletons were found, the bones being of more than ordinary size, showing that they belonged to a race of people of large statue. These forts were east of the Big Buffalo Creek and about a fourth of a mile west from the east line of Elma.

One other fort was on the west side of the Big Buffalo Creek on lots 29 and 30, land formerly owned by Lewis M. Bullis. This fort like all the others was circular in form and enclosed about eight or ten acres of land; crossing the Bullis Road and extending to the south side of a dense thicket and swamp, taking in a large spring at the edge of the swamp. The embankment in 1852, before the land was cleared, was three to four feet high and eight to twelve feet wide at the base; large pine and other trees two to three and one-half feet in diameter were at that time growing on the top and sides of the embankment and in the ditch, of the same size and age as the surrounding forest. The only account the Indians could give of these forts or mounds is what is mentioned in the traditions of the Onondaga and Seneca tribes of the Iroquois.

#### INDIAN VILLAGES.

The Tuscarora Indians, having been badly beaten in North Carolina in 1711, came north and the next year joined the Five Nations of the Iroquois, which was after that time known as the "Six Nations."

All through the Revolutionary War, the Six Nations were with the English, except about one hundred and fifty of the Oneidas and about two hundred of the Tuscaroras, who remained neutral. The English and their Indian allies wrought great havoc and destruction among the frontier settlements. To check these invasions, Gen Sullivan, in the summer of 1779, invaded the country of the Onondagas, Oneidas and Senecas, as far west as into Livingston County, burned their villages, laid waste and destroyed their cornfields and orchards and made such destruction that they never completely recovered.

In the spring of 1780, a considerable body of the Senecas with three of their principal chiefs, Farmer Brother, Cornplanter, and Red Jacket, with a few of the Cayugas and Onondagas made their first *permanent* settlement in Erie County. The principal village of the Senecas was on the Big Buffalo Creek about three miles above its mouth, with smaller villages at several places

along the Creek; one at Jack Berry Town, now Gardenville; another, a small settlement about half a mile above Blossom; another at Big Flats, now Elma village; another on the flats on Lots 14 and 15, for many years owned by Frank Metcalf, and on Lots 4, 11 and 12, south and east of East Elma, and a small settlement about one and one-half miles southwest from Marilla village. The Onondagas had their village on the Cazenove Creek, south and west of Ebenezer village, with scattering residents for six to ten miles further up on that creek.

The Cayugas were located on the Cayuga Creek, about five miles north from the Onondaga village.

At the close of the Revolutionary war, the United States government confiscated the lands previously claimed and occupied by the Iroquois nation, to punish them for the part they had taken during the war. Many of the Indians went to Canada with their English friends where they were given lands and bounties by the British Government, while the United States Government gave small reservations to those who chose to remain here. In September, 1794, at Canandaigua, the United States by treaty with the Senecas, secured to them all the lands west of the Phelps and Gorham purchase; being nearly all the lands in the State of New York west of the Genesee River, except the New York State Reservation of one mile in width from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, along the east side of the Niagara River.

Three years later, in September, 1797, Robert Morris bought the Indian title to all the lands in western New York except eleven reservations, containing in all, three hundred and thirty-eight square miles. The Buffalo Creek Reservation, containing one hundred and thirty square miles lying on both sides of the Big Buffalo Creek, was one of the eleven, and was about seven and one-half miles, north and south, and about eighteen miles east and west, taking in all of the towns of West Seneca, Elma and Marilla, the south part of Cheektowaga, Lancaster and Alden, and the north part of East Hamburg, Hamburg, Aurora and Wales. This Buffalo Creek Reservation was to be the home of the Seneca Indians, and it did so remain for more than sixty years after they first came here for a permanent home and until they sold their Reservation to the Ogden Company in 1842. That is how and why the Seneca Indians were here so long after the country north and south of this Reservation had been settled by the whites.

Since the Indians settled here in 1780 to the commencement of the year 1812 they had remained quiet and peaceable. Rumors of trouble between the United States and Great Britain caused much apprehension as to what the Seneca Indians would do in

case war should actually break out, and the remembrance of the Indian massacres during the Revolutionary war was anything but pleasant.

### INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

The British had given lands to the Mohawks, and to some of the other tribes of the Six Nations who had gone to Canada after the Revolutionary war, and it was feared that those Indians would be ready to go on the war path as English allies.

The United States government had given lands to those Indians who chose to remain here and every effort was made by the government to have these Indians remain neutral.

### WAR IN 1812.

On May 26th, 1812, just before the war broke out, Supt. Granger held a council with the chiefs of the Six Nations who were in the United States, to induce them to remain neutral during the war. They partly agreed and said they would send a delegation to consult with their brethren in Canada.

The Canadian Indians at the same time sent a delegation to the Senecas to induce them to join the British during the war.

On July 6th, 1812, Supt. Granger called another council of the Indian Chiefs to be held in their council-house on the Buffalo Creek Reservation. He explained to them the cause of the war and urged them to take no part in the quarrel between the whites. He knew that many of the young braves were being influenced by the delegates from Canada and that they were desirous to engage in the war. He said to them, if they were really determined to fight, perhaps the United States government would accept the services of one hundred or one hundred and fifty of the warriors. Red Jacket did not want any of the Indians here to enlist as that would array brother against brother; and he hoped no warrior would enlist without permission from the great council. He asked of Supt. Granger leave to make another effort to persuade the Mohawks to abandon the warpath. The request was granted and a deputation of five chiefs left for Canada. Nothing favorable resulted from this visit as the Mohawks were pledged and determined to help the British. Under Red Jacket's advice, none of the Senecas joined the American army during 1812.

### WAR OF 1813.

Early in July, 1813, the General in command of the American forces at Buffalo enrolled between four hundred and five



hundred Senecas under Farmer Brother who lived on the Buffalo Creek Reservation and was recognized, both by the whites and the Indians, as the greatest of the war chiefs. Red Jacket was as strongly opposed as ever to any of the Indians entering the American army.

On July 10th, 1813, General Porter having heard that the British were preparing to capture Black Rock, speedily sent word to all the inhabitants, and Farmer Brother gathered his warriors telling them that *now* they must fight, that their country was invaded; and that they must show their friendship to the Americans by actual help and work.

The British regulars, without Indians, landed early in the morning of July 11th below Black Rock, but were repulsed by the Americans and their Indian allies, and many prisoners were taken. The Expedition was a failure, so far as the British were concerned, but was a brilliant success for the Americans, as the Senecas entered heartily into the whole affair.

The British attack upon Buffalo, December 30, 1813, with 1,000 regulars and 200 Canadian Indians, resulted in the capture and burning of Buffalo. The American volunteers, being raw militia and poorly officered, fled in every direction. The Senecas took up the cry of defeat and sent runners to the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations carrying the news that Buffalo was burned and that the British and Indians were coming.

#### WAR IN 1814.

Stone's life of Red Jacket gives the account of a battle which was fought July 5th, 1814, on the Canadian side of Niagara River just above Chippewa, between the American army composed of one thousand three hundred militia and five hundred Senecas on one side, and the British army and their Indians on the other side.

Red Jacket had from the first, done and said all he could to hold the Senecas from entering the American Army, and he had of late been charged with cowardice, but now that it was certain that there was to be actual fighting, he joined the other Chiefs and the five hundred Senecas and took an active part in the battle. The Americans claimed the victory, taking many prisoners and drove the British and Indians from the field.

This was the first time since the Iroquois Confederacy was formed several hundred years ago, that the Senecas and Mohawks appeared as enemies, or that one tribe was in battle arrayed against another tribe, or that clan against clan fought a fierce hand-to-hand battle.

After the battle, Red Jacket arranged to have messengers go to the Mohawks to get their consent to a withdrawal of the Indians on both sides. No agreement was reached by this conference, but the Mohawks had suffered so much in the Chippewa battle that they did not again take the field. Red Jacket obtained permission for the Senecas to go home, promising that they would return if the British Indians should again join the British army. This virtually ended the Indian part of the war. The Confederation was again weakened, but not destroyed.

### IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY.

Many have been the guesses, surmises and speculations as to what was the strong bond that caused the tribes that composed the Iroquois Nation to be always at peace among themselves, and that united them so firmly, that in war or in peace they were one nation.

Was it the league, offensive and defensive, that bound them so closely as confederates, or was it the system of clans, the principles of which were adopted, accepted and lived up to with most religious exactness, that was the binding force?

It is not now known, and probably never will be, whether the clan system or the articles of the Confederacy were first adopted or whether they were both accepted at the same time; nor is it known when the whole system was made complete and put into practice.

Judging, with the lights of history and experience to help us, we may say that it is almost a certainty that either one, the clan system or the confederate league by itself would have proved a failure; and that it required both—the clan part undoubtedly the stronger—to make the most perfect and successful confederation that had ever been formed, and a government that has existed for hundreds of years; the clan part continuing to this day and the confederation, although by force of other governing powers having been partly broken up, has not been entirely destroyed.

Their tradition names Ta-do-dah-oh, an Onondaga Chief, as the founder of the league; but they have no tradition of their Clan system. Whoever was the originator of the scheme showed such great skill and statesmanship that no nation on earth need be ashamed to follow example.

The Confederation was in many respects very similar to our Union of States. A congress or Grand Council of Chiefs and Sachems decided all questions of National importance, as of war and peace and gave direction to the affairs of the Confederacy.

Each tribe was independent by itself in its own tribal affairs, acts and privileges; had its own council and could call on the other tribes to join them in wars of defense or of conquest.

### CLANS.

Each tribe of the Iroquois Nation was divided into eight clans or families, viz: Wolf, Bear, Beaver, Turtle, Deer, Snipe, Heron, and Hawk.

By Indian law, all members of a clan were brothers and sisters whether of their own tribe or of any other, and anyone of any clan was always welcome in any family of the same clan, in his own or in any other tribe. As a brother could not marry a sister, so a member of a wolf clan could not marry a wolf of his own or of another tribe, but a wolf could marry a member of any other clan, of his own or of any other tribe. This law of clan relation and marriage has been lived up to and enforced for several hundred years and is still strictly observed.

As this clan relationship extended through all the tribes, they were bound together by the strongest of family ties. No tribe of the Iroquois confederacy would go to war against any other of their tribes; as by that act, brother would be taking brother's blood, which by their law would be murder, even in war.

This explains why, during the French and Indian war, it was so impossible for the French to secure help from the Senecas after the English had enlisted the Mohawks; and also why all the tribes of the confederacy, if they took any part in the Revolutionary War, were on the side of the English, as the English at first, through the influence of Sir John Johnson had secured the Mohawks, and also why the Indians who resided in this state would not agree to enlist on the side of the United States in the 1812 war until they had heard from some of the tribes which had moved to Canada.

The rights of heirship was in the female line. A man's heirs were his mother's son, and his sister's son; never his own son. The child followed in the clan and tribe of the mother.

### SALE OF INDIAN LANDS.

By the treaty of August 31st, 1826, the Seneca Nation of Indians sold to Robert Troup, Thomas L. Ogden and Benjamin W. Rogers, known as the Ogden Co., eighty thousand nine hundred and sixty acres of land for \$48,216; [about sixty cents per acre], being the whole of some of the reservations and a part of the others. The part of the Buffalo Creek Reservation so sold conveyed thirty three thousand six hundred and thirty seven acres, being a strip



from the north side of the Reservation one and one half miles in width, one mile wide on the south side, and about three miles in width across the east end, being all of the Reservation, excepting and reserving seventy-eight square miles or forty nine thousand nine hundred and twenty acres. By this treaty, what is known as the Mile Strip in the south part of the town of Elma passed out of the control of the Indians, and on this strip the first permanent settlement by the whites in this town was made.

By treaty of January 15th, 1838, the Seneca Nations of Indians sold to Thomas L. Ogden and Joseph Fellows for the Ogden Company, all the balance of their Reservations in this state, being one hundred and fourteen thousand eight hundred and seventy acres which the Indians had excepted in the treaty and sale of August 31st, 1826.

By the terms of this treaty, the United States government was to donate to the Seneca Nation of Indians a reservation of 1,820,000 acres of land in the Indian territory, now Kansas, and build mills, shops, churches, schools, etc., on the lands; and the Indians were to cede to the Ogden Company all their reserved lands and improvements for \$202,000, being \$100,000 for the land, and \$102,000 for the improvements. The treaty was signed by forty-four chiefs, either actual or pretended, and head men and was certified by Mr. Gillett, Commissioner of the United States and by Gen. Dearborn, Superintendent for Massachusetts, and was sent to the United States Senate where it was declared to be defective. After the Senate had amended it by striking out the building of mills, shops, schools, etc., and in place thereof inserting a sum of \$400,000, it was sent back to be signed again and ratified by the Indians in Council. Mr. Gillett, the United States Commissioner, called the chiefs together on the Buffalo Creek Reservation on August 7th, 1838, to have them sign the amended treaty. By this time, an intense feeling of opposition to the treaty and to the deed had grown up among the Indians as they objected to being sent west. The treaty received the names of but sixteen chiefs, and at the same time sixty-three had signed a remonstrance. After much work and persuasion, twenty-six additional names were placed on the treaty, being forty-two out of the ninety-seven claimed by all parties to be chiefs; but as some of the chiefs kept away, the commissioners decided that a majority of those present had signed, and the treaty thus signed was ratified by the United States Senate.

A majority of the Indians said neither they nor their chiefs had agreed to the terms of the treaty, and they refused to allow the Ogden Company to take possession. The Company knew that if they commenced an action in the courts, it would be a long and

bitter contest, and there were doubts whether the courts would not decide in favor of the Indians. Each party seemed afraid of the other, and the company did not attempt to take possession, but they had the Reservation east of the Transit Line surveyed in July and August, 1840.

#### **TREATY CONFIRMED.**

On May 20th, 1842, a treaty confirmatory and amendatory of the treaty of January 15 and August 7, 1838, was signed by fifty-three chiefs and head men of the Seneca Nation. By this treaty the Indians sold to the Ogden Company all the balance of the Buffalo Creek Reservation, viz.: forty-nine thousand nine hundred and twenty acres, with the whole of some of their reservations and parts of others, they retaining the Tuscarora and most of the Tonawanda, Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations.

The Indians of the Buffalo Creek Reservation received their money and the title to the balance of that Reservation was passed to the Ogden Company after the Indians had lived here sixty-five years. In 1844 most of them left; a few remained until 1848 when they joined their friends, most of them going to the Cattaraugus Reservation and a few to the Allegany Reservation. The following will explain as to the treaty of January 15th and August 7th, 1838, and the Kansas lands.

[By Associated Press.]

Washington, Nov. 18, 1898—"The court of claims rendered a judgment of \$1,961,400 in favor of the New York Indians who entered suit against the United States to recover the value of certain lands donated to them in Kansas and subsequently disposed of by the United States. The award is in pursuance of a mandate from the United States Supreme Court. The case has been pending in the courts about five years. These lands had been set apart as a reservation for them by the treaty of 1838, but the lands were never occupied by them, and were sold by the government and the proceeds placed in the United States treasury.

The court of claims originally decided against the Indians, but the supreme court reversed that judgment and directed the award in their favor of the net amount actually received by the government for the Kansas lands, less the amount to which the Tonawandas and Senecas would have been entitled and less other just deductions."

#### **INDIAN VILLAGES IN ELMA.**

At this time, 1842, there were three Indian villages or settlements in the town of Elma; also many scattering residents.

One village was about half a mile east of Blossom on the north side of the Creek where they had a church or small council house.

At Elma Village there were 12 or 15 families who had their residences on the flats and on the high banks on both sides of the Creek. The Indians called this "The Big Flats." Here they had a burying ground, located a little west of Mr. Joseph B. Briggs's house.

Another village was at the bend of the Creek on Lots 14 and 15 which were for many years owned by Mr. Frank Metcalf, and there were scattering residences east into the town of Marilla and south on both sides of the Creek for a mile or more. Here resided Chiefs Big Kettle, Sundown, and Jack Johnny John. East of this village and near the line between Elma and Marilla was the home of a son of Mary Jemison [so reported by the early settlers], and it was here he died, and he was probably buried in the Indian Cemetery about one-third of a mile southeast from East Elma on the north bank of the creek, just west of a clump of pine trees on a high bank. Names of other Indian families will be given later.

In 1846, just before leaving the town for the Cattaraugus Reservation, the Indians of the "Big Flats" held a war dance in Mr. Clark W. Hurd's barn, Messrs. Hurd & Briggs furnishing the provisions for the feast. Some sixteen to twenty warriors took part in the dance, dressed and painted in strict war style, viz: entirely naked, except mocassins and breech-cloth, the chiefs with feathers to form a head gear. This was late in the fall and the next spring they left for their new homes. This was the last gathering the Senecas held in the town of Elma.

### PROMINENT INDIANS.

In the Seneca tribe of the Iroquois Nation were four persons who by the position they occupied and their influence in the Nation deserve especial notice here. They were Farmer Brother, Cornplanter, Red Jacket and Mary Jemison.

FARMER BROTHER, the oldest of the four, a chief loved, honored and respected by all who knew him, had his home on the Buffalo Creek Reservation. Notwithstanding the force and power of Iroquois law and the opposition of Red Jacket, he succeeded in having five hundred or six hundred of the Senecas enlist in the American army in 1813. This had the effect of uniting all the Seneca tribe, including Red Jacket, on the American side, and was the means of driving the Mohawk and other Canadian Indians from the British army in Canada after the battle at Chippewa. The old Chief was at that time over eighty years old and he was over ninety years old at the time of his death.

CORNPLANTER, a Seneca Chief residing on the Allegany Reservation, was with the British during the Revolutionary War. He was one of the great leaders of the Senecas and became very friendly with the Americans after General Sullivan had invaded their territory, and he took an active part with Farmer Brother in the 1813 war. He was strongly opposed to the use of liquor and was one of the most eloquent temperance lecturers of the Country.

He died in 1836, aged one hundred years.

We have all heard and read about RED JACKET and his history has been written in full.

By his oratorical powers he was able to exert a great influence in his tribe. Always true to Confederate and Clan law, he opposed to the last, any of the Senecas joining the American army in the 1812 war after the Mohawks had joined the British; but not being able to overcome the influence of Farmer Brother and Cornplanter and the general sentiment and determination of the other Seneca chiefs and warriors, he finally entered the army and did good and faithful service at the battle of Chippewa and was influential in causing the Mohawks to withdraw from the British army. He died near the Mission Church on the Buffalo Creek Reservation January 20th, 1830, at the age of seventy-five years. His remains now rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo.

MARY JEMISON, called also "THE WHITE WOMAN."

By reason of many extraordinary circumstances and strange experiences, Mary Jemison, by marriage and by choice a member of the Seneca tribe, and that one of her sons lived and died in this town, a brief sketch of her life is here given. She first saw the light of day in mid-ocean, her parents having left the land of their birth, Ireland, to better their fortunes in the new world. They settled in Pennsylvania where they lived until the breaking out of the French War in 1754. In 1755 the family, with neighbors, were taken prisoners by the Indians and all but Mary were killed. She was carried captive to the Ohio River and at 12 years of age was adopted by two Indian sisters who treated her with great kindness and gave to her the name, Deh-he-wa-mis. She married a brave of the Delawares, and after several years she decided to take her children and go on foot hundreds of miles from the Ohio River and take up her residence with the Senecas in this state, her husband agreeing to join her. He died before he met her.

She was twice married and had three sons and five daughters. Her crops and cabin were destroyed by Sullivan's army in 1779. She then had five children.

In 1797, when Robert Morris bought the Indian title to all the Indian lands in Western New York, except eleven reservations, she managed to have one of these, the Gardeau Reservation con-



taining twenty-eight square miles, or seventeen thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven acres, lying on both sides of the Genesee River, set off to her. Upon this tract she and her descendants resided until 1816, when she sold all but two square miles on the west side of the river. In 1831, at the age of 88 years, she sold the two square miles and came to make her home on the Buffalo Creek Reservation near Buffalo, where she died September 19th, 1833, aged ninety years. She was buried with Christian rites in the Indian Cemetery, near the Seneca Mission Church or Council House, and over her grave was placed a marble slab with appropriate inscription. In March, 1874, her remains were disinterred by Hon. Wm. P. Letchworth, under the immediate supervision of her descendants, and with other articles found in her grave were placed in a black walnut coffin and deposited in a marble sarcophagus on Glen Iris, at Portage Falls, Livingston County, N. Y., six miles from her former home at Gardeau Reservation. Through all her Indian life and travels she retained her knowledge of the English language. She was greatly beloved by the Indians, and highly respected by the whites who became acquainted with her.

Having been with the Indians all but 12 years of her life and for more than sixty years with the Seneca tribe, she had time and opportunity to learn all that could be learned of their traditions and early life. The traditions of the Senecas as herein given, are from her statements, so we take them as being as nearly correct as anything we will be likely to get from any source.

### INDIAN CHARACTER.

The character of the Indian has been given by different writers, as cruel, vindictive, jealous, full of bitter hatred, revengeful and murderous; bitter enemies, never forgetting any injury or insult: on the other hand as true friends, never forgetting a kindness or favor.

The men were lazy, never performing any labor if they could find any way to avoid it, but they would help to build the house, and were always ready to hunt and fish, and ready for a wrestle, foot race, game of ball in summer and drive the snake in winter.

The women cleared the land and raised corn, beans, and other crops for family food. All labor and drudgery was hers to perform and endure; in fact, she was little, if any better than a slave.

### CONFEDERACY NOT DESTROYED.

Mention of some of the events of the war of 1812 has been made because a part of the Buffalo Creek Reservation was in this

town, and the Reservation was the home of the Seneca Nation and three of their villages were in the town; that probably some of the Elma Indians were in the Chippewa battle; and to show the strong hold Iroquois law had on all the Indians. This unwritten law has held the members of the different tribes together through all the trying changes of probably more than eight hundred years; and was the strong bond from which they were so slow to break away. In fact, the Senecas would not enter into any treaty or transact any important business without calling a general council of the Great Chiefs of the Iroquois Confederacy. While the results of the Revolutionary war had the effect to scatter the tribes which have since been broken into pieces and the parts widely separated; yet the Confederacy is not destroyed, and the clan system exists in all the tribes to this day. In the summer of 1896, a Grand Council was called at Tuscarora Village to elect and install into office a new Tuscarora Chief.

As the Seneca Nation had possession here for nearly two hundred years and had three or four villages in this town for sixty-five years, and for more than fifty years were the actual owners of the soil, the history of the town of Elma should have this record of its early inhabitants.

## CHAPTER III.

### RIGHTS AND JURISDICTIONS OF NATIONS. INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS BY PURCHASE. ABSTRACT OF TITLE.

**I**T is a question of first and greatest importance to a person intending to purchase a piece of land to know that the party with whom he negotiates has the right to sell and convey. Can he give a perfect title?

Individuals obtain these rights to lands by gifts, by inheritance and by purchase; and the question of title goes back to first purchaser or owner, and then comes the question, "Of whom did he purchase?" So a thorough search of the records of transfer and a certified statement or abstract showing that the claim of title is perfect, is required. This search often reaches back to state, and even to national rights.

Nations claim rights of sovereignty and jurisdiction over territories by discovery, by conquest and by purchase; and we must know by what means and when, the nation became possessed of the rights as claimed.

It is proposed in this chapter of the history of the town of Elma, to make a search of the records of claims and rights of sovereignty, jurisdiction and ownership, and thus, to make out such an abstract that the question whether there is, in fact, such a town as Elma; and to show how, when and why, and the authority, if any there shall be, by which the town was originated.

For hundreds of years before this country was discovered it had been the rule and practice among the rulers in the old world for one king to make war against a neighboring or weaker king for the purpose of executing punishment for an actual or pretended insult or injury, or to compel the payment of tribute, or for conquest. The right to thus make war was claimed by the conqueror because he had the power to enforce his demand; and it was conceded by the conquered, simply because he had to. It was the old rule: that might makes right.

A new system of extending control over territories was started in 1492, when Columbus upon landing on the western hemisphere, took possession in the name of and for the use of his sovereigns, the King and Queen of Spain.



France, Holland and England each acknowledged, accepted and adopted this new way of acquiring territory.

Spain in this way, by her navigators, took possession of Florida, Mexico and South America, and claimed the territory extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but they never, by settlements, tried to hold on the Atlantic coast north of Georgia.

French explorers by the same rule claimed from Florida to Labrador and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The French soon relinquished the Atlantic coast south of Nova Scotia and occupied the region of the St. Lawrence, extending their forts and trading posts along the lakes and along the Mississippi River, and claiming all the territory drained by the great lakes and the Mississippi and its branches. These branches embraced western, central and northern New York and all west of the Allegany mountains.

#### HOLLAND.

Henry Hudson, of the Holland service, sailed along the Atlantic coast in 1609, from Virginia to New York Bay and up the Hudson River as far as Albany, claiming east to the Connecticut River and west and north indefinitely.

England, by John Cabot, navigator, in 1498, claimed from Florida to Nova Scotia and from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

All these powers recognized the rights of the resident Indians, and by all grants and charters issued to individuals, companies or corporations, they were compelled to negotiate with the Indians for the privilege to occupy and use the soil.

England tried for many years to establish colonies on her claimed territory and thus to hold possession against the other claimants. To do this, charters were granted to individuals and companies, giving to them the right to settle and occupy the described territory. These charters were given to several colonies along the Atlantic coast, but we shall now generally refer only to those that covered and included western New York, as these grants and charters are a part of the claim of title to our lands. By the foregoing, it will be seen that the Indians, the Dutch, English and French claimed western New York at the same time and we will trace the claim of each.

On September 9th, 1609, Henry Hudson, a Dutch navigator, sailed into New York Bay and thence up the Hudson River as far as Albany and claimed the country for Holland. In 1613 they built a fort on Manhattan Island. In 1621, the Dutch West India Company, having received a charter from the Holland Government, took possession and colonized New Amsterdam, [now New York] and also Fort Orange, [now Albany] and claimed all of

what is the State of New York and east to the Connecticut River.

It is here not necessary to enumerate the troubles that sprung up by other settlements being started on this territory that had not received permission from the Dutch Company, nor to mention their system of grants to owners of lands, as these are fully stated in the histories of the United States.

The Dutch continued in possession and occupancy until August 27, 1664, when an English man of war entered New York Bay, which was followed the first and second day after by three more all under command of Col. Richard Nichols.

On August 30, Col. Nichols demanded of Peter Stuyvesant, Gov. of the colony, the surrender of "all forts, towns or places of strength which are now possessed by the Dutch and also the town on the Island of Manhattan, with all the forts thereunto belonging, "offering to secure to every man, his estate, life and liberty who shall readily submit to this demand.

On September 5th, 1664, Gov. Stuyvesant made the surrender and the State of New York passed from the Dutch. The treaty of Breda, July 31st, 1667, between England, France and Holland, ceded New York and New Jersey to England, and effectually wiped out the Dutch claim to all of New York.

#### FRANCE.

In 1609, the French entered the State of New York via Lake Ontario and by that act claimed the country. They moved on west even to the Mississippi River and down that river, establishing forts and trading posts; they claimed all the country drained by the Mississippi and its branches and by the Great Lakes which includes western New York. So now we have as claimants here, the French, English and the Indians.

This condition continued for more than one hundred and forty years and war between England and France was declared May 18, 1756. Then followed in this country what is known as the French and Indian war. Result: All the French strongholds, here and in Canada, are captured, and at the treaty of peace at Paris, February 10, 1763, between England, France and Spain; France cedes all her claimed territory east of the Mississippi River to England. This clears western New York of France as a claimant and gives to England all the Atlantic coast north of 31° north latitude and west to the Mississippi River.

#### ENGLAND.

England based her claim to territory in North America on the discovery by John Cabot in 1498, and by that, claimed the coun-

try from Florida to Nova Scotia and from the Atlantic to the Pacific; and grants were made by the king to individuals and companies. These grants carried with them certain privileges as to the laws that the colonists were permitted to make.

These grants were often made to overlap or interfere with grants previously made, and so, many times troubles arose between the colonies as to certain rights and jurisdictions.

The first charter granted by King James I. that covered the town of Elma was in 1620, to the Plymouth Company, to embrace all the territory between latitude forty degrees and forty-eight degrees, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. At that time, Western New York was claimed by the Dutch and the French, but the Dutch claim was wiped out by the treaty of Breda July 31st, 1667, and the French claim was removed by the treaty at Paris February 10th, 1763. Thus, after one hundred and forty-three years of counter-claims, the charter of 1620 is the authority that will remain.

Another charter, covering most of the territory conveyed in the charter of 1620, was granted to the Duke of York by Charles II in March, 1664. The territory covered by this grant at that time, was in the possession of the Dutch, but the surrender by the Dutch, September 5th, 1664, which was confirmed by the treaty of Breda, July 31st, 1667, made it all right for the Duke of York as to the Dutch. So the contest was between this charter and the charter by James I to the Plymouth Company in 1620. England's right as a nation to sovereignty and jurisdiction is now undisputed to territory east of the Mississippi river, only so far as the charters would conflict.

In 1683, the Duke of York sends Thomas Dungan as Governor of the New York Colony, with instructions to call an assembly which passed the act entitled, "Charter of Liberties and Privileges granted by his Royal Highness to the inhabitants of New York and its dependencies," by which legislative powers were granted to the colony.

The troubles between the Colonies and England from this time to September 5th, 1774, when fifty-three delegates from the twelve colonies—Georgia not present—met in Philadelphia, as the First Continental Congress, are fully set forth in our histories and need not be repeated here. The Convention adjourned October 20th, agreeing to meet again on May 10th, 1775, if the grievances continued.

The battle of Lexington, April 19th, 1775, was the beginning of the Revolutionary War. The Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, May 10th, 1775, John Hancock, president. The delegates resolved to resist further tyranny. June 15th, they voted to raise an army of 20,000 men and elected George Washington as Commander in Chief of all colonial forces.

## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE—REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

June 7th, 1776, Richard Henry Lee introduced a resolution into Congress declaring that "the United Colonies are of right and ought to be free and independent states." June 10th a committee, consisting of Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Roger Sherman of Connecticut and Robert Livingston of New York, was chosen to draw up a declaration in harmony with the Lee resolution. The Declaration of Independence was the result and received unanimous support, and on July 4th, 1776, it was signed.

The Revolutionary War followed for nearly eight years and on November 30th, 1782, preliminary articles of peace were signed at Paris by Richard Oswald on the part of Great Britain, and John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and Henry Laurons on the part of the United States. April 11th, 1783, Congress proclaimed cessation of hostilities, and on April 15th ratified the preliminary treaty.

On September 23d, 1783, a definite treaty was signed by David Hartley on the part of Great Britain, and Benjamin Franklin John Adams and John Jay on the part of the United States. England conceded the independence of the American States, with boundary north by Canada, west by the Mississippi river, south by thirty-one degrees of latitude. This passed all rights claimed by Great Britain to the United States and leaves the thirteen states with their rights and powers.

May 14th, 1787, the Constitutional Convention assembled at Philadelphia. On September 17th, thirty-nine of the fifty-five delegates signed the new Constitution, and it was sent by Congress to the States for their sanction ; in 1787 and 1788, it was adopted by the thirteen states, and became the supreme law of the land.

This Constitution binds the states together and forms and puts before the world a nation with full authority and power of sovereignty and jurisdiction over all its territory.

## ABSTRACT OF TITLE.

Having gone through with the claims of England, France and Holland to rights of sovereignty and jurisdiction, until in 1787, these rights are vested in the United States, being the thirteen states which comprised the Federal Union. An abstract showing how and when each colony, state, company and corporation obtained their rights, and to have this abstract continued until 1842, will present a continuous chain of title and show on what right the claim of



ownership is now based, and to what transfer of title each person can turn as his authority for present ownership. This, with explanatory notes, will make up that part of the history of Elma known as Abstract of Title.

England—Claim by discoveries in 1497 and 1498, by John and Sebastian Cabot. The Atlantic coast from Florida to Nova Scotia, and west to the Pacific Ocean.

France—Claim by discovery in 1504, of New Foundland and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and later occupancy of all territory drained by the Great Lakes, and Mississippi river, and its branches, including western, central and northern New York.

Holland—Claim by discovery 1609, Delaware Bay and Atlantic coast, New York Bay, Hudson River to Albany, east to the Connecticut River, including Long Island, west and north indefinitely.

Holland by  
State's General  
to  
The Dutch West  
India Co.

Grant in 1621, from straits of Magellan to farthest north, and to take possession of New Netherlands in 1622.

England  
to  
The Plymouth Co.

Grant, in 1620, all between 40° and 48° north latitude, and east and west from sea to sea.

The Plymouth Co.  
To  
John Endicott et al.

Grant, March 19, 1628. Territory from three miles south of the river Charles, to three miles north from the norther-most part of the river Merrimac, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

England  
by James I.  
to  
Endicott Co.

Charter, March 4, 1629, to the Endicott Company as the Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay, in New England; above territory and to constitute a body politic with Governor.

Deputy and eighteen assistants to be elected by the people annually and a General Assembly of Freemen with legislative powers to meet as often as necessary.

Endicott Co.  
to  
Massachusetts  
Bay Colony.

Assign above August, 1629, to the Colonists, thus forming an independent provincial government, and in October John Winthrop was elected Governor.

England by  
Charles II.  
To  
Massachusetts  
Bay Company.

Above charter confirmed, February, 1662, giving liberty of conscience.

- England by  
Charles II.  
To  
James, Duke of  
York.
- Dutch W. India Co.  
To  
Duke of York by  
Rich. Nickols Gov.
- Holland  
To  
England.
- Duke of York  
To  
Colony of N. Y.
- France  
To  
England.
- Charter, in March, 1664, territory to include New Jersey, Long Island, east to the Connecticut river, north and west indefinitely.
- Surrender, September 5th, 1664, of all forts, towns, and occupancy of all territory claimed by the Company in New York and Connecticut.
- Treaty of Breda, July 31st, 1667, cedes all territory in New York et al.
- In 1683, the Duke of York sent Thomas Dungan as Royal Governor of New York, with instruction to call an assembly, which, on October 17th, 1683, passed the act entitled "Charter of Liberties, granted by his Royal Highness to the inhabitants of New York and its dependencies," by which act, legislative powers were granted to the Colony with a charter of liberties and toleration to all Christians.
- Treaty of Peace at Paris, February 10th, 1763, between England, France and Spain. France cedes Canada and all claims and territory east of the Mississippi river and north of 31° of latitude to England. This gives England sovereignty over Canada and the thirteen colonies.
- New York General Committee—April 20th, 1774, call a Provincial Convention, which asks Massachusetts to issue a call for a Colonial Convention, and name a time and place for the Congress to meet.
- Massachusetts, General Court, May 24th, 1774, resolves that a Colonial Congress is necessary, and suggests that it be held in Philadelphia on September 1st, 1774.
- Other Colonies were notified.
- First Colonial or Continental Congress of fifty three delegates meets in Philadelphia, September 5th, 1774. Adopt a Declaration of Colonial rights; claim right of self government; specify the wrongs that England puts upon the colonies; agree to resist what they consider unconstitutional assumption of governmental power by England; and on



October 20th adjourn to meet in Philadelphia May 10th, 1775, if a redress of grievances is not made by England.

Battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, begins the Revolutionary war.

Second Constitutional Congress meets in Philadelphia May 10th 1775; the delegates resolve to resist further tyranny. June 15th, vote to raise an army of 20,000 men, and elect George Washington Commander in Chief of all colonial forces.

The Revolutionary War continues.

The State of New York adopts a State Constitution, April 20th, 1777; amended in 1801, 1821, 1846, 1867, 1894.

The United States. On November 15th, 1777, the Continental Congress adopts articles of Confederation.

State of New York, February 5th, 1778, ratifies the articles of Confederation.

State of Massachusetts, in 1779, adopts a State Constitution.

England to The United States.	Treaty of Paris, September 23d, 1783, England concedes the independence of the thirteen American States, with boundary north by Canada, west by the Mississippi River, south by 31° north latitude, with all rights of sovereignty, jurisdiction and territory.
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#### SETTLEMENT BETWEEN MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK.

Massachusetts. Note—Massachusetts claimed all of New York north of 42° of latitude, by her charter of 1620 and 1628. New York, by her charter of 1664, claimed all of New York and east to the Connecticut river, including Vermont. This crossing of claims was a continual source of trouble between the states, and with the individual settlers. Soon after the Revolutionary war closed, Massachusetts made several attempts to have the difference settled; and, to have a boundary line established, and to settle her claims to jurisdiction. Committees appointed by both states in 1783 failed to come to an agreement and Massachusetts applied

to Congress to have her rights under the charter of 1628 recognized.

New York, also, went to Congress with her claim under the charter of 1664.

Congress December 2d, 1785, appointed Thomas Hutchins of New Jersey, David Ritterhouse of Pennsylvania, and John Ewing to run the line between Massachusetts and New York, which they did. But this did not settle the claim of Massachusetts to the lands west of the line. So Congress appointed James Duane, Robert R. Livingston, Robert Yates, John Haring, Melancthon Smith and Egbert Benson, Commissioners, on the part of New York; and John Lowell, James Sullivan, Rufus King, and Theophilus Parsons, Commissioners, on the part of Massachusetts, to meet at Hartford, Conn., and settle the controversy.

#### DEED BETWEEN MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK.

State of New York  
to  
State of Massa-  
chusetts  
and  
State of Massa-  
chusetts  
to  
State of New York.

Mutual deed, dated December 16, 1786, recorded in Erie County Clerk's office, in Liber 26, Page 469. [Note—This deed being a settlement of title to all lands in Western New York, the part especially referring to those lands is here given.]

1st. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts doth hereby cede, grant, release and confirm to the State of New York, all the claim, right, and title which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hath to the government, sovereignty, and jurisdiction of the land and territories so claimed by the State of New York as hereinbefore stated to wit:

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, claiming among other things all the territory described as all that part of New England in America which lieth and extendeth between the great river called Merrimac and a certain other called the Charles river, being the bottom of a Bay called Massachusetts Bay, and also all the lands lying within three English miles to the southward of the southernmost part of the

said Bay, and extending thence northward in latitude to the northward of every part of the said river Merrimac, and in breadth of latitude aforesaid extending throughout all the main-land in longitude westward to the Southern Ocean, as the just and proper right of the said Commonwealth; and as the State of New York has set up a claim to a part of the land above mentioned, to wit: bounded on the north by above line of northwest part of Merrimac, and south by the southmost part of Massachusetts Bay, and on the west by the limits between the United States and the King of Great Britain, and the cession from the State of New York to the United States and east by the line agreed on and established between the late colony of New York and the Massachusetts Bay in the year 1773, and from the northern termination of the said line, then bounded on the east by the west bank of the Connecticut River.

2. That the State of New York doth hereby cede, grant, release and confirm to the said Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to the use of the Commonwealth, their grantees, and the heirs and assigns of such grantees, forever, the right of pre-emption of the soil from the Native Indians, and all other, the estate right, title and property (the right and title of government, sovereignty and jurisdiction excepted), which the state of New York hath of, in and to 230,400 acres to be located by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be situated to the northward of and adjoining to land granted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Daniel Cox and Robert Litten Hooper and their associates and between the Rivers Oswego and Chenango, and also the lands and territories within the following limits and bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the north bounds, the State of Pennsylvania in the parallel of 42° north latitude, at a point distant eighty-two miles from the northeast corner of the state of Pennsylvania, on the Delaware River, thence, on a due meridian north, to the boundary line between the United States and

the King of Great Britain, thence, westerly and southerly along said boundary line to a meridian which will pass one mile east from the northern terminus of the strait or waters between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, thence east along said meridian to the south shore of Lake Ontario, thence on the eastern side of the said strait, by a line always one mile distant and parallel to the said strait to Lake Erie, thence west to the boundary line between the United States and the King of Great Britain, thence along the said boundary line until it joins with the line of cession from the State of New York to the United States, thence, southerly along the said line of cession to the north-west corner of the State of Pennsylvania, thence east along the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania to the place of beginning, and which said lands are a part of the territory claimed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

3. The State of Massachusetts doth hereby cede, grant, release and confirm to the state of New York, and to the use of the state of New York, their grantees, and the heir and assigns of such grantees, forever, the right of pre-emption of the soil from the native Indians, and all and other estate, right, title and property which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hath in, or to the residue of the lands and territories so claimed by the state of New York herein before stated and particularly specified. [Then follow several sections not necessary to mention here.]

10th. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts may grant the right of pre-emption of the whole, or any part of the said lands and territories to any person or persons, who, by virtue of such grant shall have good right to extinguish, by purchase of the claims of the native Indians, by any such grantee or grantees, unless the same shall be in the presence of, and approved by a superintendent to be appointed for such purpose by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and having no interest

in such purchase and unless such purchase shall be confirmed by the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Signed by John Lowell,  
James Sullivan,  
Theophilus Persons,  
Rufus King,

Commissioners for and in behalf of the  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

James Duane,  
Robert R. Livingston,  
Robert Yates,  
John Haring,  
Melancton Smith,  
Egbert Benson,

For and in behalf of the State of New  
York.

Done at the City of Hartford, Conn., the 16th  
day of December, 1786.

The State of Massachusetts, February 7th, 1788, ratifies the Constitution of the United States, by a vote of 187 to 168.

The State of New York, July 26th, 1788, ratifies the Constitution of the United States, by a vote of 31 to 29.

State of Massachusetts  
to  
Oliver Phelps  
and  
Nathaniel Gorham

By authority of deed, December 16th, 1786, State of New York to Massachusetts.—Sold right of soil and pre-emption from the Indians, of the whole Massachusetts tract of 6,000,000 acres, but Phelps & Gorham failing to make payment; by settlement made November 21st, 1788, they, Phelps & Gorham, retain 2,600,000 acres from the east side of the tract.

Phelps & Gorham  
to  
State of Massachusetts.  
3,400,000 acres.

November 21st, 1788, the balance of the tract, by settlement, reverts back to the State of Massachusetts. The east line of the Phelps & Gorham tract by this settlement begins in the north line of the State of Pennsylvania, 82 miles west from the north-east corner of Pennsylvania. The west line of the Phelps & Gorham tract, begins in the north line of Pennsylvania, 126 and 78-100 miles west from the northeast line of Pennsylvania, thence due north to the forks of the Genesee River and Conawango Creek—thence west 12 miles, thence north 24° east to Lake



Ontario. This line has since been known as the west line of the Phelps & Gorham purchase.

In the fall of 1788, a council of the Seneca Nation was held on Buffalo Creek, at which Mr. Phelps bought of the Indians their right and title to the 2,600,000 acres that Phelps & Gorham had bought of the State of Massachusetts. The price as agreed upon at that council was \$5,000 cash in hand and an agreement to pay \$500 annually forever. This was about half a cent per acre.

State of Massachusetts  
to  
Samuel Ogden.

Agreement, May 11th, 1791, Recorded in Erie County Clerk's Office in Liber 24, Page 408, to convey all of the Massachusetts lands west of Phelps & Gorham's tract.

Samuel Ogden  
to  
State of Massachusetts.

Release May 11th, 1791—Recorded in Liber 24, Page 413, release from above agreement.

State of Massachusetts  
to  
Robert Morris.

Deed May 11th, 1791. Liber 24, Page 415, conveys the soil and pre-emption right to all the balance of Massachusetts's lands in the State of New York, 3,400,000 acres west of Phelps & Gorham's tract.

Robert Morris  
to  
Agents of Holland  
Land Co.  
Names of members  
Wilhem Willink.  
Jan Willink.  
Nicholas Van Stop-  
horst.  
Jacob Van Stop-  
horst.  
Nicholas Hubbard.  
Peter Van Eeghen.  
Isaac Ten Cate.  
Hendrick Vollen-  
hoven.  
Christina Koster,  
(widow.)  
Jan Stadnitski.  
Rutger J. Schim-  
melpennick.

July 20th, 1793.—Robert Morris reserves from the east side of his purchase from Massachusetts of May 11th, 1791, about 1-7 of the whole tract, so that the west line of his reserve, and east line of Holland Land Company's lands, begin at a point in north line of Pennsylvania, 12 miles west from south-west corner of Phelps & Gorham tract and 138 78-100 miles west from the north-east corner of the State of Pennsylvania at the Delaware River, thence, due north to near the center of the town of Stafford in Genesee County, thence due west 2.07875 miles being 2 miles, 6 chains and 30 links, thence due north to Lake Ontario. Morris agreed to extinguish the Indian title to all, except the New York Reservation of one mile wide on the east side of Niagara River. Conveys about 2,625,000 acres.

United States to  
Seneca Nation of  
Indians.

Treaty, September 1794, at Canandaigua, secures to the Indians, their right in all the

lands in the State of New York west of Phelps & Gorham purchase except New York State Reservation.

### INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

Seneca Nation of  
Indians to  
Robert Morris.

Treaty, September 15th, 1797, at Big Tree, now Geneseo, conveys pre-emption right to all above lands, except 11 Reservations, containing 338 square miles, conveys 2,625,000 acres. Price paid, \$100,000. The Buffalo Creek Reservation is one of the eleven reserved.

These eleven Reservations are as follows:

					ACRES.
Big Tree or Little Beard Reservation, in Livingston Co.,	4 square miles,	2,560			
Conawangus	" " " "	2	"		1,280
Squawky Hill	" " " "	2	"		1,280
Gardeau (Mary Jamison)	" " " "	28	"		17,920
Canada	" " Allegany	16	"		10,240
Oil Spring	" " Cattaraugus	1	"		640
Cattaraugus	" " " "	42	"		26,880
Tuscarora	" " Niagara	1	"		640
Allegany	" " Cattaraugus	42	"		26,880
Tonawanda	" " Genesee	70	"		44,800
Buffalo Creek	" " Erie	130	"		83,200
		338			216,320

Robert Morris, by  
Sheriff to  
Thomas L. Ogden.

Deed, May 12th, 1800. Liber 24, Page 406, conveys all W. of Morris reserve except the New York State Reservation.

Thomas L. Ogden  
to  
Wilhem Willink,  
et. al.

Deed, February 18th, 1801 (in Erie Co. not recorded). Conveys same as Robert Morris to Agents of Holland Land Co., July 20th, 1793, 2,625,000 acres, and carries right of pre-emption to the eleven reservations.

Wilhem Willink,  
et. al.  
to

David A. Ogden.

Deed, September 10th, 1810. Liber 1, Page 68, conveys right of pre-emption to the reservations containing 197,835 acres.

NOTE.—This carries the title of lands in Western New York, except the New York State Reservation one mile wide, from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, to the Holland Land Co.; also, except to the eleven Indian Reservations of which David A. Ogden has the pre-emption right or right to purchase the Indian title.

The Holland Land Company, soon after its purchase in 1801, surveyed its lands into Ranges six miles wide, numbering from the east line of their purchase toward the west, and then surveyed these Ranges into towns six miles north and south, numbering from the Pennsylvania State line toward the north.

The line between the 4th and 5th Ranges is the present east line of Erie County, and this town of Elma comes in the Holland Survey as Town 10, Range 6, and is also known as a part of the Buffalo Creek Reservation.

#### SALE BY SENECA INDIANS TO THE OGDEN COMPANY.

David A. Ogden  
to  
Robert Troup,  
Thomas L. Ogden  
and Benjamin  
W. Rogers.

Trust deed, February 18th, 1821. Liber 6, Page 396. Forms copartnership with 20 shares, to enable the members to buy of the Indians their title to the eleven reservations.

The Seneca Nation  
of Indians  
to  
Robert Troup,  
Thomas L. Ogden  
and  
Benj. W. Rogers.

Treaty August 31st, 1826, Liber 10, Page 138. As this purchase includes a part of Elma, the treaty is given in full. At a treaty held under the authority of the United States at Buffalo Creek in the County of Erie, State of New York, between the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Seneca Nation of Indians on behalf of said Nation, and Robert Troup, Thomas L. Ogden and Benjamin W. Rogers of the City of New York, in the presence of Oliver Forward, Esq., Commissioner appointed by the United States for holding said treaty and Nathaniel Gorham Superintendent, in behalf of the State of Massachusetts, know all men by these presents that we, the said Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors, for and in consideration of the sum of \$48,216, lawful money of the United States to us in hand paid by the said Robert Troup, Thomas L. Ogden and Benjamin W. Rogers at or immediately before the ensealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted bargained, sold, aliened, released, quit-claimed and confirmed and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, quit-claim and confirm unto the said Robert Troup, Thomas L. Ogden and Benjamin W. Rogers and their assigns forever, all that tract of land commonly called the Canadea Reservation in Allegany County, containing sixteen square miles, also—then follows other reservations and exceptions—the exceptions making a sale of 80,960 acres of land, being about two-fifths of all the land in

the eleven Reservations for \$48,216, about 60 cents per acre.

By this sale all the eleven Reservations were sold except:

49,920	acres	of the	Buffalo Creek	Reservation.
12,800	"	"	Tonawanda	"
21,760	"	"	Cattaraugus	"
1,920	"	"	Tuscarora	"
30,469	"	"	Allegany	"

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116,869

#### SENECA INDIANS TREATY WITH THE OGDEN COMPANY.

(Note—This sale conveys 33,637 acres of the 83,557 of the Buffalo Creek Reservation.)—That part of this sale which is within the bounds of the Town of Elma is a strip one mile in width on the south side of the town, and is known as the Mile Strip; and on this strip, in Elma, the first settlement of white people in the town of Elma was made. The part of this Reservation not sold by the terms of this treaty was to contain seventy-eight square miles or 49,920 acres, and this reserved part is described as follows:

Beginning on the north line of said Reservation at a point one and one-half miles east of the Cayuga Creek, running thence south one and one-half miles, thence east parallel with the north line so far that a line to be drawn from the termination thereof south, to a point one mile distant from the south line of the said Reservation, and thence west parallel with the said south line to the west line of the Reservation, and thence along the west and north lines of the same to the place of beginning will contain the said quantity of seventy-eight square miles or 49,920 ares.

NOTE.—This treaty conveys a strip of land one and one-half miles wide on the north side of the Reservation, about three miles wide across the east end, and one mile wide the length of the south side. This takes all of the town of Marilla east of the two-rod road, passing north and south through Marilla village. All of the town of Elma is in the reserved part of the sale, except the Mile Strip on the south side of the town.

#### TREATY SIGNED.

The treaty was signed as follows:

YOUNG KING, YOUNG CHIEF, CHARLES O'BEAL, CAPT. SHINGO,  
POLLARE, BAREFOOT, TUNIS WOLFAOUN, GEO. RED EYE, LITTLE  
BILLY, CAPT. CROW, LOHN JOHN, JIMIE THUDSON, CORNPLAN-

TER, JONES COUSIN, BLUE EYES, STIFF KNEE, STRONG, BIG KETTLE, LITTLE JOHNSON, RED JACKET, CHIEF WARRIOR, JACK SNOW, DOESTADA, JOHN FOPP, SENECA WHITE, JOSEPH LEGNANY, GREEN BLANKET, JOHN SNOW, LITTLE BEARD, WM. BLACKSNAKE, WHITE BOY, THOMPSON, TALL CHIEF, TALL PETER, ISAAC, JAMES STEVENSON, JR., CAPT. SNOW, JAMES ROBISON, HENRY TWO GUNS, JOHN SNOW, TWENTY CANOES, WHITE SENECA, STEVENSON, SILVER HEELS, DESTROY TOWN, JOHN PIERCE; 46 in all.

ROBERT TROUP, by his Attorney JOHN GREIG.  
 THOMAS L. OGDEN, " " " "  
 BENJ. W. ROGERS, " " " "

Signed and Sealed in the presence of

JASPER PARISH, Indian Agent.  
 HORATIO JONES, Interpreter.  
 LEVI HUBBELL, "  
 JACOB JIMSON, "

Certificate of NATHANIEL GORHAM, Sup't for Massachusetts.  
 " " OLIVER FORWARD, Com. for United States.

Treaty ratified by United States Senate.

Abram Ogden and  
 Wife,  
 et. al. 1st part,  
 Wm. Short,  
 et. al. 2d part,  
 Robert Troup,  
 et. al. 3d part.

Deed of Partition, January 10th, 1828. Liber 11, Page 56, to divide above premises to individual stockholders as per Trust Deed of February 18th, 1821.

#### TREATY OF 1833 AND 1842.

The Seneca Nation  
 of Indians  
 to  
 Thomas L. Ogden  
 and  
 Joseph Fellows.

Treaty January 15th, 1838, Lib. 82, Page 1. Sale of all the Indian lands which were excepted from the treaty and sale of August 31st, 1826, conveys 114,869 acres for \$202,000, signed by forty-four chiefs and head men of the nation, certified by Mr. Gillett, Commissioner for the United States; certified by Gen. Dearborn, Superintendent for Massachusetts. Treaty amended by United States Senate and sent back. So much dissatisfaction and opposition was made by many of the Chiefs and Indians that another Treaty was made August 7th, 1838, and was signed by forty-two who claimed to be chiefs. This last treaty was ratified by the United States Senate.



Josh. Waddington,  
Benj. W. Rogers,  
Abraham Ogden,  
Duncan P. Campbell,  
Isaac Ogden,  
Robert Tillotson,  
Gabriel Shaw  
(by Attorney)  
to  
Thomas L. Ogden  
and  
Joseph Fellows,  
Trustees.

Deed of trust July 16th, 1840, liber 67, page 198. To purchase such of the Indian Reservation as they can by treaty and then to convey and make partition of Indian lands.

The Seneca Nation  
of Indians  
to  
Thomas L. Ogden  
and  
Joseph Fellows,  
Trustees.

Treaty, May 20th, 1842. Liber 106, Page 194. Treaty confirmatory and amendatory of the treaty of January 15th, 1838, and of August 7th, 1838, conveys several tracts, among them the balance of the Buffalo Creek Reservation as reserved by the treaty of August 31st, 1826, contains 49,920 acres.

### Signed by

GEO. BLACK SNAKE, JOHN SENECA, IRA HURBACK, JOHN DICKEY, JAMES STEVENSON, JACOB BENNETT, GEORGE FOX, GEORGE BIG DEER, JOHN PIERCE, GEORGE TURKEY, PETER JOHNSON, WM. PATTERSON, DANIEL TWO GUNS, JACOB STRONG, SAMUEL GORDON, BULLY SHANKS, JOHN KENNEDY, TONE HALF TOWN, JAMES PIERCE, ABRAM JOHN, WHITE SENECA, ROBERT WATT, JOB PIERCE, YOUNG CHIEF, THOMPSON S. HARRIS, GEORGE BIG DEER, THOMAS JIMESON, MORRIS HALF TOWN, GANA WAN, TALL PETER, SIMON WHITE, ISAAC HALF TOWN, JOHN KENEDY, Jr., JAMES SHON, Jr., MORRIS STEVENSON, WM. JONES, JAMES SPORING, JONAH ARMSTRONG, SAMUEL LOGAN, MORRIS H. PIERCE, GEORGE DEER, GUY JAMESON, JOHN TALL CHIEF, DANIEL SNOW, N. T. STRONG, BLUE EYES, JOHN BARK, JABEZ STEVENSON, SAMUEL WILSON, GEO. KILL BRUSH, LITTLE JOHNSON, WM. KROUSE, GEO. DENNIS, 53 CHIEFS AND HEADMEN.

### Witnesses:

BENJ. FINNEY, O. H. MARSHALL, ORLANDO ALLEN, ELAM R. JEWETT, ASHER WRIGHT, CORTLAND B. STEBBINS, JOSEPH S. WATSON.

THOMAS L. OGDEN.

JOSEPH FELLOWS.

AMBROSE SPENCER, Com. on behalf of U. S.

SAMUEL HOAR, Supt. on behalf of Mass.

A. DIXON, Com. on behalf of N. Y.

This treaty was not ratified by the U. S. Senate.

## PARTITION DEED OF OGDEN COMPANY.

Wm. L. Waddington,  
Jeremiah Van Renssaeler,  
Executors of  
Josh. Waddington,  
Rich. H. Ogden, Ex.  
of Thos. L. Ogden,  
Louisa Troup, et al  
to  
Gabriel Shaw and  
Melville Wilson.

Deed of Partition December 29th, 1852.  
Liber 147, Page 279, in which principals *et al.*,  
were set off.

Other deeds of Partition, Liber 77, Page 231;  
Liber 51, Page 279; Liber 118, Page 323.

This brings the chain of title to 1852, and partitions the lots to the various members of the Company, giving to them individually the right to convey.

It will be seen by the foregoing that the town of Elma was wholly included in the Buffalo Creek Reservation; that by the treaty of August 31st, 1826, the Ogden Company bought a strip one mile wide in the south part of Elma, the south line of this Mile Strip being the south line of the town.

That by the treaty of May 20th, 1842, the Ogden Company bought the remainder of the Buffalo Creek Reservation, of which the remaining portion of the town of Elma was a part. The north line of this last purchase forms the north line of the town.

That, by the deeds of partition, the stockholders of the Ogden Company became individual owners of the several lots as surveyed and numbered, and from these individual owners, purchases were made and the settlement of the town was begun, first, on the Mile Strip in 1828 and in 1844, and later throughout the remaining portion of the town.

## CHAPTER IV.

### STATE JURISDICTION.—NEW YORK STATE DIVIDED INTO COUNTIES.

Massachusetts claimed jurisdiction, as well as sovereignty over all of Western New York under the Charters of 1620 and 1628.

New York claimed the same under the Charter of 1664. Naturally, trouble between the governing authorities of the two colonies, as well as with the inhabitants, grew out of these conflicting claims; and these troubles grew to be more and more bitter, as settlements were extended by each colony until actual hostilities were threatened on both sides.

The settlement was finally made on December 16th, 1786, by a commission appointed by Congress, which gave to New York jurisdiction over all the disputed territory in this State. The acts of New York will now be considered in this matter of State jurisdiction.

The New York Assembly, having been called together by Gov. Dongan, then the Colonial governor of New York, among other acts, on October 17th, 1683, passed the act entitled "Charter of Liberties, &c.," and on November 1st, 1683, the governor signed the act dividing the territory of New York into nine counties.

Kings, Queens and Suffolk on Long Island were organized with practically the same boundaries as at present.

The southeast part of the State, east of the Delaware River, was divided into Westchester, Richmond, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange and Albany Counties.

The first post-office in New York City was established in 1775.

### COUNTIES ORGANIZED.

Albany County, as organized at that time, extending south from Albany about fifty miles, then west and south-

west to the Delaware River, then south to the Pennsylvania State line, and embraced all of the west and north part of New York and the whole of Vermont—quite a fair sized county, containing over 40,000 square miles. Elma was then and for nearly ninety years in Albany County.

Tryon Couty, formed from Albany County, March 12th, 1772, embraced all the State west of the Delaware river and a line extending from the head of that river, northeast through what is now Schoharie County, and along the east line of Montgomery, Fulton, and Hamilton Counties, then north on a straight line to Canada.

This placed Elma in Tryon County.

Montgomery County.—The name of Tryon County was changed to Montgomery, April 2d, 1784, the people at that time having a greater love and respect for a noble general than for the old British governor.

This placed Elma in Montgomery County.

Ontario County was formed from Montgomery County, January 27th, 1789, to embrace all of the Massachusetts tract and the New York State reservation on the east side of the Niagara River, being all west of a meridian line passing due north from the eighty-second mile post in the north line of the State of Pennsylvania, through Seneca Lake to Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario. Contain 6,000,000 acres of land. County seat at Canandaigua.

This placed Elma in Ontario County.

#### TOWNS AND COUNTIES.

Genesee County, formed from Ontario, by act of legislature, March 30th, 1802, the east line of the County being the Genesee River and a line from the junction of Canaseraga Creek, with the Genesee, south to the Pennsylvania State line. All west of this line is the new County of Genesee. By the same act the County was divided into four towns; Northampton (later the name changed to Gates), Southampton, Leister and Batavia, the county seat to be at Batavia. By this act, the town of Batavia consisted of the whole of what is now Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie and

Niagara Counties, and nearly all of Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming and Alleghany Counties—about 4,000,000 acres.

This act placed Elma in the town of Batavia, Genesee County. The surveys of the Holland Company's land being complete, settlers came, and the Holland Purchase was talked about everywhere.

April 11th, 1804, by act of the Legislature, Batavia was divided into four towns. Batavia was to consist of the 1st, 2d and 3d Ranges of towns of the Holland Company's surveys; the west line of Batavia being the east line of Darien, and that line north and south from the Pennsylvania State line to Lake Ontario; Willink to consist of the 4th, 5th and 6th Ranges, making the west Transit line the west line, and extending from the Pennsylvania line to Lake Ontario; Erie to consist of the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Ranges and New York Reservation; Chautauqua to contain all of what is now Chataqua County.

This placed Elma in the town of Willink, Genesee County.

In the early part of 1808, settlements had been made in every part of the large county of Genesee, and the inhabitants found it very inconvenient to attend the town meetings and elections; thus a reorganization of the county and of the towns seemed to have become a necessity. Towns eighteen miles wide and one hundred miles long were well enough when the inhabitants were few, and all at or near one end; but now all this was changed, for the people living at Olean to go to Vandeventers in the new town of Clarence—eighty miles—to attend town meetings and elections was a little too much.

The same conditions existed in the towns of Batavia and Erie. Genesee County.—March 11th 1808, by act of the Legislature, the line between the 4th and 5th Ranges was to be as it is now, the West line of Genesee County. Niagara County was formed by the same act to embrace all the territory west of Genesee County to Niagara River and between the Cattaraugus Creek and Lake Ontario; being the present counties of Niagara and Erie.

Cattaraugus County by same act was formed with present boundaries.



Chautauqua County by same act was formed with present boundaries.

Cambria, a new town, by same act was formed from Willink and Erie, to comprise all of Niagara County north of the center of Tonawanda Creek.

Clarence, a new town, all of Niagara County, between the centre of Tonawanda Creek and the centre of the Indian Reservation, including the village of Buffalo and Grand Island.

Willink, to include all of Niagara County, between the centre of the Reservation and the Cattaraugus Creek. This wipes out the town of Erie, and places the town of Elma partly in Willink and partly in Clarence, in Niagara County; the line between Willink and Clarence, is the lot line about sixty rods north of Elma railroad station.

Buffalo as a town was formed by act of Legislature February 8th, 1810, from the town of Clarence, taking all west of the Transit line, viz:—what is now the city of Buffalo, also Grand Island, Tonawanda, Amherst, Cheektowaga and north part of West Seneca.

Willink changed  
to Aurora.

Name changed by act of Legislature, April 15th, 1818.

Erie County, formed April 2d, 1821, from Niagara County; the Tonawanda Creek being the dividing line, giving to both Erie and Niagara their present limits. Erie County is twenty-three miles from the centre of Niagara River at the foot of Lake Erie to the Range line between the 4th and 5th Ranges of the Holland Company's survey; this Range line is one and a quarter miles east of the east line of Marilla. Erie County, is forty-three and a half miles north and south.

This places Elma partly in Aurora and partly in Clarence, Erie County.

Lancaster, formed March 20th, 1833, from Clarence, the new town comprising Township eleven, Range six of the Holland Company's surveys and south to the centre of the Reservation.

This places Elma partly in Aurora and partly in Lancaster, Erie County.

The Legislature of the State of New York, from the first organization of the Colonial Assembly on October 17th, 1683, had organized and made all changes in the size and boundaries of the towns of the State until 1849, when by Chapter 194 of the laws of

1849, entitled an Act to vest in the Boards of Supervisors certain legislative powers, etc., was passed April 3, 1849, as follows,:

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

“Chapter 194 of Laws of 1849.”

The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1—The Boards of Supervisors of the several counties of this State (the county of New York excepted) at their annual meeting, shall have power within their respective counties by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected, to divide, or alter in its bounds any town, or erect a new town, but they shall not make any alteration that shall place parts of the same town in more than one assembly district. Upon application to the board as hereinafter provided (of at least twelve freeholders of each of the towns to be affected by the division), and upon being furnished with a map and survey of all the towns to be affected, showing the proposed alterations, and if the application be granted, a copy of said map with a certified statement of the action of said board thereunto annexed, shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to cause the same to be printed with the laws of the next legislature after such division takes place and to cause the same to be published in the same manner as other laws are published.

Section 2—Notice in writing of such intended application, subscribed by not less than twelve freeholders of the town or towns to be affected, shall be posted in five of the most public places in each of the towns to be affected thereby for four weeks next previous to such meeting of the board of Supervisors and a copy of such notice shall also be published for at least six weeks successively immediately before the meeting of the board of Supervisors at which the application is to be made, in the newspapers printed in the county, not exceeding three in number.

Section 3—Whenever the board of Supervisors shall erect a new town in any county, they shall designate the name thereof, the time and place of holding the first annual town meeting therein, and three electors of such town whose duty it shall be to preside at such meeting, appoint a clerk, open and keep the polls, and exercise the same powers as Justices of the Peace when presiding at town meetings, and in case any of the said electors shall refuse or neglect to serve, the electors of the said town present at such meeting shall have power to substitute some elector of said town for each one so refusing or neglecting to serve. Notice of the time and place of such town meeting signed by the Chairman or Clerk of the Board

of Supervisors shall be posted in four of the most public places in said town, by the persons designated to preside at such town meeting, at least fourteen days before holding the same. They shall also fix the place for holding the first town meeting in the town or towns from which such new town shall be taken, but nothing in this act shall affect the rights or abridge the term of office of any Justice of the Peace or other town officer in any such town whose term of office has not expired."

In accordance with the foregoing act of the Legislature, the following notice was duly posted and printed:

### NOTICE.

Is hereby given that an application will be made to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Erie, New York, at their next annual meeting, to erect a new town in said county from the north part of the town of Aurora, and south part of the town of Lancaster to be composed of all that part of Township No. 10 in the Sixth Range of Townships lying east of a line commencing at the northwest corner of the town of Marilla, and running westerly to the Transit line, forty-five rods north of the northeast corner of the town of West Seneca, containing all the lands in said bounds.

#### LANCASTER.

William Winspear,  
Henry F. Pate,  
Frederick Hinemann,  
John Wolf,  
Daniel Christ,  
Jacob Knab,  
George Standart,  
Edward Healey,  
Frederick Metzel,  
Washington Standart,  
Matthias Baker,  
Thomas D. Tiffany,

#### AURORA.

John Barnet,  
David J. Morris,  
Henry M. Gupstill,  
William M. Lockwood,  
Robert M. Miller,  
Horace Keyser,  
Zenas M. Cobb,  
James Davis, 2nd,  
Lewis Northrup,  
Noah Wertman,  
J. H. Aylesworth,  
John Morris.

October 29th, 1856, Mr. Harris, Supervisor from the town of Aurora, presented to the Board of Supervisors a petition of William Lockwood and others of Aurora for the erection of a town from parts of Aurora and Lancaster. Referred to Committee on Erection and Division of Towns.

November 24th, 1856, Mr. Harris presented petition of Z. A. Hemstreet and others, in reference to erection of a new town, from parts of Aurora and Lancaster.

Mr. Bingham presented petition of Henry T. Jett and others in reference to the same matter. Both petitions were referred to Committee on Erection and Division of Towns.

November 27th, 1856, Mr. Carpenter presented a remonstrance of Warren Jackman and others against a division of this town of Lancaster. Referred to Committee on Erection and Division of Towns.

November 28th, 1856, Mr. Rowley presented the petition of D. J. Morris and others to have the new town from Aurora and Lancaster named Spring Brook. Referred to Committee on Erection and Division of Towns. Also the petition of Erasmus Briggs and others to have a new town erected from Lancaster and Aurora. Referred to same committee.

Mr. Bingham presented a remonstrance of Edward Holmes and others against the proposed north line of the new town which petitioners ask to have erected from Lancaster and Aurora. Referred to same committee.

Thursday, December 4th, 1856. Report of the Committee on Erection and Division of Towns.

Mr. Morgan, from the Committee on Division and Erection of Towns, made a report as follows:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the petitions and remonstrances of different persons of the towns of Lancaster and Aurora, have had the same under consideration and, after examining all the petitions and remonstrances both for and against the erection of a new town from parts of the towns of Lancaster and Aurora and, finding that all the notices and affidavits required to be given by the act passed by the Legislature of April 3d, 1849, have been furnished on the part of the petitioners, are of the opinion that the prayers of the petitioners should be granted.

We therefore offer the following resolutions:

1st. Resolved, That all that part of the towns of Lancaster and Aurora in the County of Erie described as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of the town of West Seneca, running thence east on the line of lots to the west line of the town of Marilla and to the northeast corner of Lot No. 1; thence south on the said west line of the town of Marilla to the southwest corner of said town; thence westerly along the Reservation line to the Transit line; thence northerly along the said Transit line to the place of beginning, is hereby erected into a separate town to be hereafter known and distinguished by the name of Elma.

2nd. Resolved, That all the remaining part of Lancaster, shall be and remain a separate town by the name of Lancaster, and all the remaining part of Aurora shall be and remain a separate town by the name of Aurora.



3rd. Resolved, The first annual town meeting in the town hereby erected shall be held at the house of Clark W. Hurd, in said town, on the first Tuesday of March, 1857, and thereafter the same shall be held on the same day that other towns hold their annual town meetings in said county of Erie.

4th. Resolved, That Joseph B. Briggs, Deforest Standart and Lewis Northrup are hereby appointed to preside at the first town meeting to be held in said town of Elma; to appoint a clerk; open and keep the polls and shall exercise the same powers as Justices of the Peace when presiding at town meetings. All of which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL MORGAN,  
NILES CARPENTER,  
O. G. ROWLEY,  
MARTIN KELLER,  
THOMAS O'DWYER.

*Committee."*

Mr. O'Dwyer moved to lay the report on the table and make it the special order for Monday afternoon, immediately after the reading of the minutes.

Mr. Taylor moved to amend, by making it the special order for this P. M. at 3 o'clock.

The question taken by ayes and noes, resulted as follows: Ayes,—Z. C. Allen, Barnard, Bingham, Ballou, Buffum, Covey, Clark, Carpenter, Cunningham, Dayton, Grove, Morgan, Patterson, Rowley, Sherman, Smith, Taylor, Winslow—19.

Noes—O. Allen, Brooks, Bellinger, O'Dwyer, Diebold, Edmunds, Fish, Harris, Hecox, Hall, Keller, Loveland, Marvin, Richmond, Sterns, Welch—16. The motion as amended was put and carried.

Thursday, December 4th, 1856—Afternoon session.

The report of the Committee on Division and Erection of Towns having been the special order it was taken up.

Mr. Taylor moved that the report be adopted. The question being taken by ayes and noes resulted as follows:

Ayes—Z. G. Allen, Barnard, Bingham, Ballou, Buffum, Covey, Clark, Carpenter, Cunningham, O'Dwyer, Diebold, Dayton, Edmunds, Fish, Grove, Harris, Hall, Keller, Morgan, Patterson, Rowley, Richmond, Stevens, Sherman, Smith, Taylor, Welch, Winslow—28.

Noes—Brooks, Loveland, Marvin—3. Report adopted.

December 9th, 1856—Mr. Brooks moved that the town of Elma be made a part of School Commissioner District No. 2.

Mr. Allen moved that the said motion be referred to a committee of three to be appointed by the chairman. Carried. The chair-



man appointed as said committee, Messrs. Covey, Cunningham and Welch.

Mr. Bingham presented the petition of John Wright and others to have the new town, now called Elma, called Clyde or London. Referred to a committee on Erection and Division of Towns.

December 10th, 1856—Mr. Morgan from the Committee on Erection and Division of Towns made the following report:

#### ELMA THE NEW TOWN.

“Your Committee, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of the town of Lancaster for an alteration in the name of the new town of Elma, have had the same under consideration and beg leave to make the following report:

That in the opinion of your Committee, we have no right to alter the name and should not be disposed to do so if we had such right. All of which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL MORGAN,  
NILES CARPENTER,  
O. G. ROWLEY,  
MARTIN KELLER,  
THOMAS O'DWYER.

*Committee.”*

Report adopted unanimously.

December 12th, 1856, Mr. Cunningham from the Committee on School Committee District No. 2 made the following report:

“The Committee to whom was referred the subject of altering the boundary of the Second School Commissioner District have had the same under consideration and offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the boundaries of the Second School Commissioner District in the County of Erie be and is hereby extended so as to include the town of Elma within its limits. Adopted.

L. D. COVEY,  
NELSON WELCH,  
H. S. CUNNINGHAM,

*Committee.”*

Thus was the Board of Supervisors authorized to erect the new town; and the Town of Elma with full power and authority became one of the towns of the Empire State.

## CHAPTER V.

### LOOKING BACKWARD.

The residents of the town of Elma in the year 1900, being in the full enjoyment of their pleasant and comfortable homes, many with expensive and luxurious furnishings and surroundings, with well cultivated fields and farms and well-filled barns, with villages, churches, postoffices and schools near by; with railroad and telegraph stations within easy reach; with good roads everywhere, and having been, for many years in the full possession and use of all these evidences of prosperity, and in the every-day life passing easily, almost imperceptibly from one day or week or month or year to another, if asked about these surroundings would be likely to reply they were that always so, but with a second sober thought they would hesitate and say, that great changes had taken place in Western New York since the first white settler moved upon the Holland Purchase; and even since this Reservation was vacated by the Seneca Indians.

Some writer has truthfully said, "That a person in a boat floating down a rapid current, by looking at the water at his side can form no idea as to how fast he is going; and only when he looks at the shore or at some stationary object can he realize the velocity of the stream,"

As a people and nation we are on the high tide and moving rapidly on. Shall we take a look towards shore and see what rapid strides we have made? We all know, or ought to know something of the early history of our country and of the hardships and dangers through which the early settlers passed; of the oppression which was forced upon the colonies by the home government; of the spirit they had with which to oppose the wrongs which they suffered, and which were increased until armed resistance became a necessity; of the great men of the country whose united patriotism and wisdom placed before the world our "Declaration of Independence," followed by the eight years Revolutionary War, and the acknowledgment by England of our Independence which compelled the governments of Europe to recognize the "United States of America" as a nation among nations.

Then were we, as a nation, like a little child, hardly able to toddle along; but now like a strong, fully developed man we claim to be, and are, second to no nation on the face of the earth.

We have our 4th of July celebrations, when we have the Declaration of Independence read and appropriate orations delivered, and we fill out the day with patriotic songs. Why do we do this? Because we are by these exercises, taken back in thought to the time of Colonial troubles, the times that tried men's souls; and we receive great pleasure and profit in reading and reviewing the early history and later growth of our country, our spirit of patriotism and national pride is thereby strengthened; and by these celebrations we keep the fires of patriotism and love of country burning, so that our children and all citizens may learn and remember something of the struggles and hardships of the early settlers during the infant days of our republic. As national and individual independence and prosperity is today the heritage of all the people, so by the review we are made to realize when and how the great change and growth has come to pass, and love of country is made to take deeper root in the hearts of all the people.

As we turn back the pages of our national history and read about the great men; their labors and achievements in the affairs of the nation, the boys of today are thereby encouraged to do their best that they too, may have their names on their country's roll of honor.

As we read about the first steamboat, the first railroad locomotive, the first cotton loom, the first school, the first sewing machine, the first telegraph, and about a thousand other great inventions what interesting subjects of thought they are for us.

How proud were the men who gave them to us, and how we honor them, and cherish their memory; for they were the first to open a path through what had before been an unbroken wilderness, and they have opened the way for the inventive spirit to operate until today we have all these inventions brought to such great perfection that they are marvelous in our eyes. It is the great desire of our people to be forever pressing on, and so far as possible, to stand at the head of the class in all inventions that tend to make national and individual prosperity.

At the time the Colonists made their efforts to resist the tyranny that was forced upon them by the English government, had they been possessed of only ordinary intelligence and determination or in other words, less backbone; or if such strong outside influence had been used against them as to crush their efforts for Independence; or if the Colonists had been satisfied to continue under British rule, we today, would be a second down-trodden and oppressed Ireland instead of the great United States nation.

Suppose that inventors had been satisfied with the steamboat which John Stevens set afloat in 1804, we would today be going around in just such a craft as that, instead of the splendid palaces

that plow through the waters of our great lakes and the greyhounds and merchantmen and warships that traverse all oceans.

The first railroad engine which was built in the United States was placed on the track in 1830; a crude kind of engine with four wheels, no cab, no cover for engineer or fireman, wood for fuel, and able to go only a few miles in a day.

Christian Smith, who is still living, stepped on board as the first railroad engineer. Suppose that had satisfied the world as being the climax of railroad engines, what would the world be today as compared with the present railroads, crossing and recrossing every state and almost every civilized country of earth; with Empire Express passenger trains with a speed of sixty miles per hour and great freight trains, each carrying 600 to 2,000 tons of produce or merchandise 20 to 30 miles per hour? And so of each and all of the other great inventions of today which have been brought so nearly to perfection by American inventive genius.

As we trace these back to their early days, we can truly say that the push and the determination of our people to "get there" have, from very small beginnings and many unfavorable surroundings, produced marvelous results; and from taking this backward look we are prepared to give honor and praise where they are due; being better able to realize the changes that have been made, and so are encouraged to press forward to complete victory in all possible things, our motto being "Excelsior," always upholding the flag of our Union, with its Stars and Stripes, singing as we go, "Long may it wave, over the land of the free and the home of the brave."

As a people, we have much of praise and honor for those who have been the prime movers in all the great events of our national affairs and as we receive such inspiration and hope and strength by a review of our early and later national history, may we not have these same impressions increased toward the first settlers in the town of Elma, by a review of their early labors. A very large proportion of the families who resided in the town of Elma when the town was organized in 1856, came from the Holland Purchase, where they or their families were among the first settlers on that tract. By taking a look back to that time we shall see what Western New York then was, how the people labored, with what tools and implements they worked, what were their surroundings, and the difficulties, dangers, and hardships of their early lives.

This review of the frontier life of the early settlers on the Holland Purchase may not be a history of the town of Elma in the strict meaning of that term; but it is a history of the early life of the fathers and mothers, of the boys and girls who were the first or early settlers of this town. Among their number are many who now reside here, and who have been and are numbered among



our best citizens, and to take a brief review of their early lives is to place them in the position where we can give to them the respect and honor that is their due; for by their early acts and labors they laid the foundation for, and made possible the present conditions and surroundings. It is but fair that they and their early acts should be remembered, and that we by this review may realize the changes that have been made, and the difference there is between Western New York in 1808 and in 1900,

To pass by the purchase on July 20th, 1793, of the lands west of the Genesee River by the Holland Land Co. except the eleven Reservations, and the settlement of the eastern part of that tract with a settler here and there miles part in the western part, we come to March 11th, 1808, when Niagara, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua counties were set off from Genesee county, and Niagara County embracing what is now Niagara and Erie was made into three towns, Cambria now Niagara County and Clarence and Willink, now Erie County.

#### FIRST SETTLERS ON HOLLAND PURCHASE.

The dividing line between Clarence and Willink was the centre, east and west line of the Buffalo Creek Reservation. This line remained when Willink was changed to Aurora and when Lancaster was set off from Clarence as the line between Lancaster and Aurora.

At this time, 1808, there were about twelve families, a store, a sawmill, and a grist-mill, in what is now Aurora, with scattering families in Wales, Colden and Hamburg, and in the present town of Lancaster there were about twelve or fifteen families, a saw-mill, and a store. After 1808, settlers came in more rapidly but they were nearly all very poor.

As a rule, but few were able to pay more than five, ten or fifteen dollars as a part payment on a one hundred acre lot; and so many were not able to make that small payment that finally six shillings was the price required by the Holland Land Company for an "article" as the contract was called.

Generally, if the family came in the summer, it was with oxen and cart; if in winter or spring, with oxen and sled, and if not too poor, they would have with them a cow, a few sheep and a supply of clothing, a small stock of household furniture with sufficient provisions to last the family until they could raise some corn, potatoes and wheat.

The first thing after selecting a lot was a shelter. If there were no near neighbors, the man would fix up a cabin of small logs that he and the other members of the family could handle



and the body of the house was thus constructed. If there were four or more neighbors within two or three miles, they would come on a set day, and a log house of suitable size for the family would be constructed, having a roof of bark or shakes, a puncheon or earth floor, a fireplace built in one end of the house with common stones for materials, plastered and laid up in clay mud for mortar, with stick chimney laid up cob-house fashion and plastered outside and inside with clay mud when the house was ready.

### POTATOES AND POINT.

Every man needed to bring with him, as his outfit of tools, an axe for himself and one for each of his boys, a hand saw, a drawing knife, one inch and two inch auger, a gimlet, one or two iron wedges, hoe, sickle, and sap gouge; and for the house, andirons, fire-shovel and tongs, trammel and hooks and chain for the fire place, a one pail iron kettle or pot, tea-kettle, spider, bake-kettle, skillet, and a two or three pail kettle for washing days, one or two wood pails and a few keelers. The table furniture was neither extensive nor expensive; very few earthen dishes, the pewter plates, or plates of wood called trenchers, pewter platter for the center of the table, a few pewter or iron spoons, iron or steel knives and forks, made up the list. At meals the meat, if they had any, would be cut into small pieces or mouthfuls and put in the platter in the center of the table, and each person would reach to the platter with his fork for a piece of meat or to sop a piece of bread as they would individually want. When the family had no meat they would prepare their potatoes and salt on the trencher, and while eating, occasionally point with their forks toward the platter, and in that way make the motion for meat; they would call the meal "potatoes and point." This with the early settlers was a common dish.

The principal meat was pork, with an occasional change to bear, deer, partridge, pigeon or fish. The steel and flint, with punk and tinder were a necessity; for the fire in summer would sometimes go out, and there were no matches in those days, and neighbors were not near enough so they could go to them to borrow fire.

With the few tools brought along the man could make the stools, benches, bedsteads, tables, and other necessary things as the time and requirement came along. After 1808 and 1810, saw-mills were built so that people could have boards for their floors and roofs and doors of their houses. None other than log houses were built for several years.

The men and boys were busy chopping, clearing, making fence; and raising such crops as they could of potatoes, corn, wheat, rye,

beans and flax; caring for the oxen, cows, sheep, hogs and horse, if they had one, for not more than one family in ten had a horse before 1816 in all Western New York, and that was only used for horse-back riding, or to take a grist to the mill. The three-cornered drag was made from the crotched part of a tree, each prong about seven or eight inches in diameter flattened to a proper thickness, with two inch auger holes at proper distances apart in which would be inserted wooden teeth, made from hard, strong wood; generally hickory, oak, or iron wood. The oxen would drag this over the ground among the roots and stumps of the newly cleared field, and thus scratch up enough of soil to partly cover the grain that had been sown by hand broadcast; or this dragging would prepare the ground to be planted to potatoes or corn. The first crop of corn on a newly cleared field was generally planted Indian fashion; that is, strike the axe into the ground where the hill was wanted, drop in four or five kernels of corn and step on the hill.

#### PLOW AND SICKLE.

The plow, when one was used, was of rude construction and in later years, the share and mould-board were of cast iron with large wood beam, known as "Wood's Bull Plow," a heavy clumsy thing to handle, but it was strong and, with enough of team strength, would break the roots and tear up considerable soil.

The wheat, rye and oats were always cut with the sickle, and where several hands were in the harvest field, the head man would cry out, "Band O!" and every man would cut a handful of the grain, and tie the knot to make the band, and lay it on the ground; then they would cut the grain by handfuls, lay them on the band, and when enough was so placed to make a bundle, then the head man would sing out, "Bind O!" and every one would bind his bundle; then "Band O!" and so on across the field. To reap, bind and set up one-half acre of common grain was a good day's work.

#### SUGAR MAKING.—FLAX DRESSING.

Of the wheat, rye, and oats stored in the barn, enough would be threshed with the flail in the fall for immediate use, if needed; the balance would be threshed in the winter. Men and boys learned to use the flail, and two or three hands, keeping stroke with flails—tap, tap, tap, so as not to hit another flail, made the winter music in the barn; the straw and chaff being fed to the cattle. If, for any reason, there was not enough straw and hay for the cattle in winter or spring, the men would go to the woods and chop down elm, birch, beech, or basswood trees, and the cattle would eat the

small twigs and many times the entire stock would be carried through the winter on this browse.

Making sap troughs, tapping the maple trees, and work in the sugar bush was the gala time and to make a year's supply of sugar and molassas for the family was part of the early spring work.

On pleasant days in March, the men and boys, if they had flax would use the flax-break, then the swingel to separate the shives from the flax, followed by the hatchel to separate the coarse part of the fibre or tow from the fine part, which was to be used for thread and fine linen cloth; then the flax and tow were ready for the mother and girls. They kept the house, did the cooking over the fire in the Dutch fireplace that occupied one end of the living room, and it was in many of the houses the veritable living room, being used for kitchen, pantry, dining-room, reception room, bedroom and parlor so far as they had need for a parlor.

There were no cook stoves in those days and not a piano on the Holland Purchase before 1824, and there was no good place in the house to put one, and no time nor use for cheap novels, embroidery or fancy work.

#### WOMEN SPIN AND WEAVE.

The mother and girls carded the wool and tow into batts with hand cards and from these they spun yarn on the big wheel. Every girl then learned to spin, not street yarn or on a bicycle, but the real yarn from wool and tow, and it was their pride to see how evenly they could draw out the thread, and get off their day's work of four skeins of filling or three skeins of warp. The warp was spun cross banded, and was hard twisted, and so required more work. Each skein contained ten knots of forty threads each, and each thread to be two yards in length; so each skein consisted of a continuous thread eight hundred yards, or twenty-four hundred feet in length. The four skeins made nine thousand six hundred feet, nearly two miles in length of thread, for a days work; but a smart spinner would get off her day's work by 3 o'clock p. m. From the wool yarn thus spun, then colored and woven, would be made the best dresses for the women, and the best clothes for the men, and from wool spun for that especial purpose were knit the stockings for the family.

From the tow thus carded and spun, they would make cloth for the girls' summer dresses, and frocks, pants and shirts for the men and boys.

The flax, after being thoroughly hatched and nicely placed on the distaff would be spun on the little wheel, and thread be thus prepared for sewing, and to be woven into fine linen cloth for family use. The big wheel, the little wheel, and the reel were a part

of the furniture of nearly every house. Of course, the weaver had in addition, the loom, the swifts, the quill-wheel, quills and spools, the warping bars, and sets of coarse and fine reeds.

### CANDLES.

The fire in the fireplace would generally give out light enough. If, for any ordinary purpose more light was required, a tallow candle in an iron candlestick would supply the need, but for especial occasions, as when they had company and wanted to show that they could put on more style, two tallow candles would be brought out. The tin lantern, with a piece of tallow candle furnished the light for going around on dark nights and to do the chores in the barn.

The oxen and cart or wagon for summer and the oxen and sled for winter were the means of conveyance.

While the whole country was covered with one dense forest, the conditions were not favorable for sudden changes of weather; thaws in winter were not common and generally, November snows would remain until April. There were no snow-drifts, for the windstorms passed over the tops of the trees, as the snow remained where it fell, a road once broken through the woods would remain good all winter.

### MERCHANTS.—SHOEMAKERS.

Boots and shoes were for winter and special occasions only. Many were the boys and girls who never had a shoe for every day wear before they were twelve years old, and very often not then.

On going to the village or to church they would carry their shoes to within half a mile of the village or church, put them on there, wear them to where they were going, and back to the same place, then take them off and carry them home, thus prolonging the serviceability of the shoes.

The country or village stores did not have boots and shoes as a part of their stock in trade. In every village, you would find the shoemaker and in almost every neighborhood would be a cobbler who would mend shoes and sometimes make a pair. In the fall and winter, the traveling shoemaker with his shoe-bench and small kit of tools and lasts would go from house to house and as they called it, "whip the cat," and stay with the family while he made or mended their boots and shoes for the winter's supply.

After 1818, a tannery was started in nearly every village on the Holland Purchase, and from these the necessary supply of leather was obtained.



The merchants obtained their goods from New York or Albany; the goods being hauled from Albany with four or six horse teams; the teams taking potash to Albany, and loading back with merchandise and iron. The iron was necessary for the blacksmith who in addition to his regular trade, was a nailmaker, and from the nail-rod he made the nails used in his neighborhood. The long distance from which the iron was brought, made nails very high even at the low price of labor. In 1820, a few merchants in the larger villages brought in a few cut nails, coarse and clumsy things as compared with the nails of 1900. Eight and ten penny nails were then sold for sixteen cents per pound, while wheat at that time was worth only thirty cents per bushel at the village mill. A bushel of wheat then would not buy two pounds of nails, while in 1900 a bushel of wheat at eighty cents will buy at retail thirty pounds of very nice steel nails. Farmers in 1900 complain of hard times; how was it in 1820?

### SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

Schools were started in every neighborhood where a dozen or more children could be found. The schoolhouses were generally log buildings with a Dutch fireplace in one end. Later, in the villages and occasionally in the country you would find a frame school house. Education was what every parent wanted his children to have; not the high school education of 1900, for that was not known on the Holland Purchase for many years; but a good, liberal education, consisting of a fair knowledge of the three Rs, as "Readin, Ritin, and Rithmetie," was called, and to this education the children generally attained.

Churches were built in the villages with forenoon and afternoon services summer and winter. No fire was kept in the churches until 1824, as there were no box stoves until about that date.

### ERIE CANAL.

The completion of the Erie Canal from Buffalo to Albany in 1825, caused a great boom on the Holland Purchase. On October 26, 1825, at 10 o'clock a. m., the Seneca Chief left Buffalo for Albany with Governor Clinton and others on board. The departure from Buffalo was announced by the discharge of a thirty-two pound cannon. Other cannon along the canal at convenient distances repeated the shot, and in that way the news was telegraphed to Albany. That was the best way to telegraph in those days.

The opening of the canal enabled people to come into Western New York with less expense and hardship, and the merchant was



able to get his goods from New York at less cost, and very much quicker than the old way of having everything hauled from Albany by teams. It also opened a better market for the farmer for his surplus product. Horses were required to haul the boats and they required feed, so horses, hay, and oats found a ready market on the canal. After this date most of the houses which were built in the older part of the Holland Purchase were frame houses, only a few log houses remaining, except in some back or newly settled portion. The pewter plates and trenchers give place to crockery and all kinds of tin ware, with better buildings, farm tools, and better cultivation and better crops and roads. The whole face of the country shows that the infant stage has passed.

### FROM POVERTY TO COMPETENCY.

We can readily see that with the early settlers in Erie County, for many years, improvements came very slowly, as only the actual necessities of life were to be had, or were expected, while luxuries were not to be thought of. It was only by slow, hard labor, persistently followed, that change was made from poverty to competency, by the people who by their crude surroundings were forced to their severe manner of living. Their very existence demanded and forced upon them industry and rigid economy—that sharp, strict, close economy which in these days of extravagance and luxury would be called niggardly meanness. This is a fair statement of the mode of life of a great majority of the early settlers on the Holland Purchase before 1826, in what is now Erie County. A goodly number of persons who were born and raised to manhood and womanhood under exactly such conditions and surroundings as have been here stated, are residing in the town of Elma in the year 1900, and they have been and are today among the best and most highly respected citizens of the town and county. There can be nothing but honor and praise for those honest, hardy toilers, who, by their industry and perseverance overcame so many obstacles and discouragements, and opened the way so that the present pleasant and prosperous conditions of the people in the town of Elma were made a probability and possibility and later, a certainty.

## CHAPTER VI.

### WESTERN NEW YORK IN 1797.—SETTLEMENT OF THE MILE STRIP.

One hundred years ago, viz.: in 1797, there were not a dozen families of white persons residing on all of the Massachusetts lands west of the Phelps and Gorham tract. A few hundred of the Seneca, Tuscarora and Cayuga tribes of the Iroquois or Six Nations had about a dozen Indian villages several miles apart and a few huts or wigwams between and near these villages with one to ten acres of cleared land near the wigwam or village, on which the squaws raised corn, beans, and gourds. The footpaths or trails from wigwam to village, and between the villages were all the signs that showed that any part of this territory was occupied by human beings.

The 7,000 square miles of territory bounded by the Genesee River on the east, and Niagara River and Lake Erie on the west was to be known as Western New York. The mountains, valleys, hills, plains, rivers, creeks and streams were practically the same as we find them today but it was all an unbroken forest, except the small patches of Indian clearings which were the homes of the Indian, the bear, the wolf, the panther, the deer, and other wild animals.

The Seneca tribe of Indians was the undisputed owner of all this great tract of country (except the New York Reservation, which was a strip one mile in width from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie along the east bank of Niagara River) the title having been confirmed and guaranteed to them by treaty with the United States. This whole forest region was covered with a heavy growth of oak, pine, hemlock, hickory, ash, black walnut, butternut, sycamore, maple, beech, elm, basswood and many other kinds of timber, and was an ideal home and hunting-ground for the native Indian.

### WESTERN NEW YORK IN 1900.

One hundred years have passed, and in 1900 we find in this same Western New York that these Indians have sold all their lands to the white man, except four small reservations, a few thousand acres in all, and in the place of a few hundred Pagan Indians there are more than 1,000,000 civilized Christians, intelligent and indus-

trious white people. We find the great city of Buffalo and several smaller cities and hundreds of villages and hamlets dotted here and there over the whole territory. It is hardly possible to tell the number of miles of paved and asphalt streets and roads in the cities and villages and between them; or the number of miles of street railroads which are spread across and around these cities and villages, and that reaching miles into the surrounding country form a great iron and steel net on which the cars run, being propelled by that subtle power, electricity, of which we see and hear so much, and really know so little. The steam railroad, the steel tracks of which cross and recross almost every town, with trains coming and leaving the cities almost every minute of every day of the year, the steamboats arriving and leaving the city wharves; the hum and whirl of 10,000 machines in the factories, the hundreds of palatial residences, the churches, schools, public and office buildings, the more than 1,000,000 of busy hurrying people are in such marked contrast with everything 100 years ago that the mind is filled with wonder and amazement.

In the place of the scattering Indian huts and half acre clearings in the great forest, we find everywhere well-cultivated farms with fine buildings, the houses finished and furnished with all the modern appliances, the homes of a prosperous and happy people.

Instead of the foot path or Indian trail from and between the Indian villages with a tree fallen across the stream for a bridge, we have the whole country crossed and recrossed with well worked highways, with iron and steel bridges across the streams. These are only a few of the many things that come to the mind of persons residing in Western New York in the year 1900. The mind wanders when we attempt to take in all the changes of the 100 years, and we can only say this is truly an age of wonders, if not of miracles, and we are ready to ask if some magic wand was passed over this region, that produced this change, this transformation from Pagan barbarism to Christian civilization.

#### HOLLAND LAND CO.—OGDEN CO.

The purchase, July 20th, 1793, and survey of this 7,000 square miles of territory, by the Holland Land Co. was the first step to bring about this change. Next came the hardy pioneer as magician with axe in hand as the magic rod with which he made a few motions and passes towards the trees of the forest which caused them to tremble and fall at his feet. The fire and smoke from the burning brush and log-heaps were his burnt offering; the thanksgiving for the harvest followed which was the next step.

These acts of persistent labor and strict economy, continually and intelligently applied, changed the forest to the farm and village on the Holland Purchase.

Twenty-five years of such work brought the white man's cleared fields to the North, east and south sides of the Buffalo Creek Reservation.

The Ogden Company, a syndicate of capitalists, tried for several years to purchase of the Indians all their lands in Western New York. Finally, by the treaty of August 31st, 1826, they purchased the whole of a few of the Reservations, and a part of some of the others. That part of the Buffalo Creek Reservation which lies in the town of Elma and was a part of this purchase was a strip of land one mile wide, and is known as the Mile Strip, and after having been surveyed by John Lamberton, was opened for settlement as an addition to the Holland Purchase. This was the third step in the progress of Western New York.

#### THE MILE STRIP.

The south side of this Mile Strip is the south line of the present town of Elma, and the Elma part of this Mile Strip was divided by survey into thirty-seven lots of about one hundred acres each.

Lot No. 1 was at the southeast corner of Elma. Lot No. 2 next north of Lot No. 1, and as each lot was half a mile in length, the two lots reached across the Mile Strip in this town. The lots were numbered North and South as the ranges extended to the west until Lots 35, 36, 37, which form the west range in the town lying west of the Cazenove Creek, brings Lot 37 at the southwest corner of Elma.

The first settlements made by white people in this town of Elma were on this mile strip in the then town of Aurora, and the settlers came mostly from Aurora, Wales, Colden and Hamburg; all coming from the Holland Purchase, where they or their families had been among the early settlers of that tract and had there learned by experience what it meant to go into the woods to begin for a home.

At that time, 1828, sawmills, gristmills, villages, postoffices, churches and schoolhouses had become common on the Holland Purchase so that many articles of necessity and convenience were within easy reach, and friends and neighbors were near by. To leave these and go into the woods meant many privations and much hard work for all the members of the family. It meant a repetition to a certain extent of the labors, difficulties and dangers through which they had passed during the last few years. They knew and realized what was before them. It meant the same hard work, the

same strict economy, small returns for much hard labor, and the result has proven that they were in every way prepared and fully competent for the task.

The old Indian trail from the Allegany Reservation in Cattaraugus County to the Seneca village near Buffalo via Machias, Holland, Aurora, Spring Brook, and Ebenezer village crossed this mile strip and today the mainly traveled road through these places is very nearly on the old trail, and by this trail and road the travel went from Wales and Aurora to Buffalo before the Ogden Company made any purchase of the Seneca Indians.

The lots on the Mile Strip in Elma were offered for sale by the Ogden Company on January 1st, 1828.

### EARLY SETTLERS ON THE MILE STRIP.

The following named persons and their families were the first settlers on the Mile Strip in the year and as nearly in the order here given as can be ascertained:

Taber Earl,	on Lot 24, bought January 2nd,	1828.
Lyman Chandler,	" 16, " February,	1828.
Isaac Williams,	" 15, moved on April 10,	1828.
Russel Brooks,	" 19 & 20, moved on April 10,	1828.
Timothy Treat,	" 17, May,	1828.
Daniel F. Cole,	" 26, May,	1828.
Hiram Pattengill,	" 2, Jannary 1st,	1829.
Jacob R. Davis,	" 35, May 5th,	1829.
John Divens,	" 21,	1829.
John Fones,	" 24,	1829.
Salathiel Cole,	" 32,	1829.
Chester Adams,	" 33,	1829.
Jas. & Willard Fairbank	" 13,	1830.
Anasa & Luther Adams,	" 11, (Cousins)	1830.
John Adams,	" 20,	1830.
James Davis,	" N. part 35,	1831.
Martin Taber (N. Star)	" 29,	1831.
Jacob Pattengill, }	" 2 & 3,	1831.
Taber Pattengill, }		
Zina A. Hemstreet,		1831.
Wilder Hatch,	" 1,	1832.
Joshua & Wm. Mitchell,	" 23 & 25,	1832.
Seth M. Bullis,	" 37, March,	1833.
Samuel Harris,	" 24, Sept.,	1834.
Thomas Coverdale,	" 18,	1834.

There were probably other families living on the Mile Strip before 1835, but their names and the year of their moving on could not be positively learned. A short biographical sketch of some of the above named heads of families is here presented.

### FIRST SETTLERS ON THE MILE STRIP.

Taber Earl was the first purchaser of lands on the Mile Strip. On January 2, 1828, he bought Lot 24 of Josiah Waddington. The



next year Earl and Blair built a tavern on the north side of the trail, and near the northwest corner of the lot where the house still stands in 1900. Samuel Harris bought this lot of Taber Earl on September 16th, 1834, and kept tavern there for several years. December 31st, 1849, Hiram Harris bought the place and lived there until he died on July 26th, 1889. He was supervisor of the town of Aurora, when the Town of Elma was formed from Aurora and Lancaster in 1856.

Lyman Chandler, in February, 1828, bought of Susan Ogden Lot 16. He was unmarried but built a small log house and his deed is dated September 8th, 1830. He disposed of seventeen acres from the northeast corner of the lot where James Blood has resided for many years. The title to the balance of the lot, eighty-three acres, remained in Lyman Chandler to the time of his death in October, 1889, at the age of eighty-nine years. The Chandler heirs still hold the title.

Isaac Williams moved with his family on Lot No. 15 April 10, 1828, built a log shanty on the low ground south of where he was to build a house, and lived in the shanty that summer. During this time he made a small clearing and erected the upright part of a frame house. That frame house is still there, and is the front part of the house now and for many years occupied by the son, Thomas D. Williams. Thomas, born February 18, 1827, was one year and a month old when the family moved on the lot and that has been his home all these years. He died December 1, 1900.

Timothy Treat moved on Lot 17, in May, 1828, where he built a log house and lived there several years, when Horace Blood became the owner and lived there when the Town of Elma was organized. That lot is now owned by William H. Williams, a son of Thomas D. Williams, and grandson of Isaac Williams. The north and south road from the Aurora town line to the Jamison station on which these Williams families have for so many years resided is known as the Williams Road. The east and west road from the Girdled Road to the Aurora Plank Road on which Horace and James Blood resided for so many years is known as the Blood Road. These roads were laid out April 21, 1832.

Russel Brooks moved on the west part of Lot 19 April 10, 1828, built a log house in which he lived several years. The place, in a few years, passed into the hands of Stickney Billington and remained in the Billington family until two or three years ago, when John Arndt, the present owner, came into possession of Lot 19. A part of Lot 20 is now owned by C. J. Hamlin as a part of his Aurora Village Stock Farm. The east and west road from the Aurora Plank Road to the east terminus on Lot 13, and on which road the Billington fam-

ily lived for so many years is known as the Billington Road and was laid out April 21, 1832.

Daniel F. Cole moved on Lot 26, in 1828 into a log house. Members of that family reside on the old homestead; the title always remaining in the family.

Hiram Pattengill moved on Lot 2, January 1, 1829, where he lived in a log house. Trouble with a brother and a threatened lawsuit so worked on his mind that in March, 1846, he cut his throat with a razor, thus being the first suicide on Elma soil.

Jacob R. Davis moved into a log house on Lot 35, May 5, 1829. The son, William R. Davis, who now resides about one and one-half miles southwest from Spring Brook, was born May 4, 1827, and so was two years and one day old when the family moved on the Mile Strip. Jacob R. Davis built a sawmill on the Cazenove Creek on the end of Lot 35 in May, 1830. This was the first and only sawmill ever built on the Mile Strip in the town of Elma. In 1831, Jacob R. sold the north half of Lot 35 to his brother, James, where he and his family lived for many years. Albert Davis, the youngest son of Jacob R., now owns and for all his life has lived on the south half of said Lot 35.

Chester Adams built a log house and moved on Lot 33 in 1829, where he lived until a few years ago when he moved into the village of Aurora, where he now resides.

Salathiel Cole settled on Lot 32 in a log house in 1829. John Divens settled in Lot 21 in a log house the same year. James and Willard Fairbanks settled on Lot 13 in a log house in 1830.

Horace Scott Fairbanks, son of Willard Fairbanks, was the first white child born on the Mile Strip, May 27, 1831.

The south part of Lot 13 is still owned and occupied by descendants of Willard Fairbanks. H. Scott Fairbanks resides on the Bowen road, one-fourth mile north from Aurora Plank Road in the town of Aurora.

John Adams, in 1830, bought the east part of Lots 19 and 20, where he spent the remainder of his life, and his descendants now reside there.

Amasa and Luther Adams, cousins, settled on Lot 11 in 1830. John Q. Adams, son of Luther, is the present owner. The east and west road from the Girdled road to the Marilla town line on which Luther and John Q. Adams lived is known as the Adams Road and was laid out April 21, 1832.

Martin Taber erected a frame building in 1831 on the northeast corner of Lot 29 across the road from the Taber Earle tavern. This new building was to be a tavern by which name all places kept for the entertainment of travelers was known. Tavern was the name—no hotel in those days and both houses did a good business, being on

the mainly traveled road from Aurora to Buffalo and close to the line between the Mile Strip and the Indian lands.

This Martin Taber tavern was given the name of "North Star," and it has always been kept as a tavern and known as the North Star.

Joshua and William Mitchell built log houses and settled on Lots 23 and 25 in 1832, where they lived and where William died, January 26, 1836. Some of their family now live with John P. Cole on Lot 26.

Seth M. Bullis built a frame house on Lot 37 and moved on in March, 1833. Marion was born January 16, 1834; later she became the wife of John W. Cole. She, in 1900, lives with her son, Bordan J. Cole, on the old Cole homestead on Lot 26.

Thomas Coverdale bought of Joseph Fellows Lot 18 and settled on the Mile Strip in 1834; sold the lot to Caleb Foster February 6, 1849. Caleb Foster and his family resided there all the balance of his life and his descendants now own and occupy a part of the lot.

#### SCHOOLHOUSES ON THE MILE STRIP.

The first school house on the Mile Strip was made of logs and was built on the north side of Lot 15, at the corner of the Williams and Billington Roads in 1831.

The first school kept in that school house was taught by Miss Emily Paine in 1831. She married Nathan K. Hall, later a partner in the law firm of Hall & Fillmore of Buffalo, and Postmaster-General in President Fillmore's cabinet. A frame schoolhouse was built on the same site about 1848. The schoolhouse is continued and that school district is in 1900, known as School District No. 4 in the town of Elma.

The second school house built on the Mile Strip was on Lot 25, a plank building 18x22 feet in size. It has been replaced by a larger and better building on the northwest corner of Lot 28. The district is now known as School District No. 5 in the town of Elma.

The third schoolhouse was built near the center of Lot No. 36 in 1833. That schoolhouse, District No. 11 is now gone, and the territory west of the Cazenove Creek in that part of the town is joined to school districts in the town of East Hamburg.

The early settlers in the town were anxious to give to their children the elements of a good education, and so schools were provided at this early day.

Settlers continued to come and in 1842 when the Ogden Company by treaty, obtained the balance of the Buffalo Creek Reservation, forty-two families had found homes on the Mile Strip and about three-fourths of the lots had been purchased of the Ogden Company

and had become farms with what was then called comfortable buildings and surroundings.

### CLEARING THE LAND.

The work was of the same old kind and carried on in the same way as in the past twenty years on the Holland Purchase. It was chop, burn, clear, fence, raise wheat, corn, potatoes and flax. The same "Wood's Bull plow," but they have iron drag teeth. The grain cradle, introduced in 1830, slowly took the place of the sickle for harvesting grain. Before 1842, more than three-fourths of the wheat, rye and oats raised on the farms was threshed with the flail; the threshing being done by the farmer and his boys or threshed for every tenth bushel, by some man who wanted work and had no threshing of his own to do. Eight horse-power, open-cylinder threshing machines had been introduced that would thresh one hundred and fifty bushels of wheat and two hundred bushels of oats in a day if the grain was good, but as there was no separator or fanning mill attachment, the straw was separated from the grain and chaff by three or four rakings, and when quite a pile of the grain and chaff had accumulated in front of the thresher, all must stop and get this grain and chaff out of the way. Then they threshed another pile and so on—the fanning mill to be used later to separate the grain from the chaff. Improvements came later, but slowly.

The flax was prepared for the women, and they worked it into cloth, etc., in the same way as was done twenty or forty years before. They had better conveniences for cooking over the fire and doing the house work; a few cookstoves had come into use after 1832, but they were not much used in the log houses. Carding machines, to convert the wool into nice rolls, were then within easy reach of the settler. This saved the hand-carding of the wool, but they had plenty of work in hand carding the flax and tow, and in spinning and weaving the various kinds of cloth needed by the family, and in making their clothes and stockings.

Most of these early settlers have passed away; only a few remaining with us in 1900, but they made their mark in the world while here. We can see the result of their labor; and their industry, economy and perseverance is before us, as a lesson for us to learn, if we shall finally be successful in our various callings.

We honor them for the examples they have set before us, and that by their labors and their lives they have made the present high civilization and pleasant surroundings a possibility and certainty.



## FINANCIAL STORM.

Every person must be prepared for the trials, difficulties, labors, the hopes and fears, that are certain to be encountered through life, which as an individual or as a family or community, or, in a general way, as a nation, are to be met with and overcome if success be gained.

Whether the individual, family, community or nation shall be able to pass safely through and overcome these obstacles, or whether he or they shall be overcome by them, depends largely on the conditions, surroundings, perseverance, and will-power put into operation.

An obstacle, so great that a feeble person cannot stir it, can be readily removed by one of greater strength. A financial load, so great as to bankrupt a person of limited means, can be safely and with profit taken up by a person financially strong. But when the thing to be carried is so great that neither individual or national strength is sufficient, then disaster, if not ruin, is for every person to face, and only the most careful and persevering will be able to outride the storm in safety.

Signs that such a storm was near were to be seen, clouds were gathering and the political sky was gradually growing dark. Occasionally the mutter of distrust, and the low rumble as of distant thunder was heard. This occurred soon after the first settlers moved on the Mile Strip, and the prophesy was that "the first few years with the early settlers on the Mile Strip were to be years of hardship and trial," which proved true.

The Act of Congress, to re-charter the United States Bank, which passed both houses with considerable majority and was the clap of thunder that told the people that the storm was here, was vetoed by President Jackson in 1830. This bank had, by its charter, been made the repository of the public moneys. In 1832, rumors were started that the deposits were not safe, and the Secretary of the Treasury caused an examination to be made of the condition of the bank. The report showed a surplus of \$42,297,000, over all liabilities, and that the security of the public money was above question.

The tariff did not produce sufficient revenue to meet the expenses of the government, and the proceeds from the sales of the public lands were used to meet the deficiency; but these sales were so large that the surplus was continually increasing.

A surplus in the United States Treasury was with President Jackson, as later with President Cleveland, a dangerous condition and must not be allowed to continue. So on September 18th, 1833, he directed the Secretary of the Treasury to withdraw the deposits



from the United States Bank and place the money with state and local banks. The removal occurred October 1st, 1833. The United States Bank then began to curtail its loans, and to make arrangements to gradually close up its business.

Soon a severe money pressure pervaded the whole country. To overcome this financial embarrassment in every State, a great number of State Banks were chartered; many of them with little or no real capital, by which to secure the redemption of the great amount of paper which they put into circulation. This flood of money induced speculation, and wild-cat money and city lots had a great run.

In 1836, the deposit banks were hoarding all the gold and silver they could obtain, to enable them to meet the government calls. The local banks, being crowded for specie, were all over the country thrown into a panic, and most of them suspended specie payment, while many failed entirely. Money matters were fast coming to a crisis and every speculator and business man tried to get clear before he should be buried in the financial ruin which was sure to come soon, and might come any day.

The climax was reached in Erie County in August, 1836, when the forgeries of Benjamin Rathbun were exposed, and his failure was announced. As banker, capitalist, builder, speculator and boomer, he had been the leading business man in Buffalo, having had almost unlimited credit. It was found when the crash came that he was owing hundreds of men, who by his failure were in a day reduced from wealth to poverty; the acting and reacting influence extending to almost every man in western New York. This business failure was especially severe upon many of the settlers on the Mile Strip, as they had trusted Mr. Rathbun to lumber, etc.

The election of Martin Van Buren as President of the United States in November, 1836, brought no financial relief, and all through 1837, prices of real estate as well as of all other property continued to go down. Banks continued to fail, counterfeit money and broken bank bills were causes of fear and distrust with every business man, and "Thompson's Bank Note Reporter and Detective," a weekly paper published in New York City which described counterfeit bills (which were legion) and reported broken and suspended banks, with the rates of discount at which the bills would be redeemed, was the constant companion of the business man, and even then he might go to bed at night with his pocket full of money and not be sure that he would have a dollar the next day which would help him to pay a debt, or to buy food for his family. These hard times continued with greater or less severity, generally greater for several years, and many families were forced to sell their homes,

or have them sold by the Sheriff, when they would take the little they had left and go to Michigan, Illinois or Wisconsin, where they could find government land at ten shillings per acre, and begin again for a home in a new country.

#### **MILE STRIP IN 1840.**

This caused many changes of ownership in real estate on the Mile Strip, and was a great hindrance in making improvements, especially on the new farms where the owners were forced to observe strict economy in all their expenditures.

The Patriot War, so called, commencing in December, 1837, was no help to the farmer.

The balance of trade between the United States and foreign nations in the eight years, 1832 to 1840, being the excess of imports over the exports of \$111,000,000, an average of about \$14,000,000 for each year, had drained the country of gold and silver; nearly all the State banks had suspended specie payments, and the manufactories had largely shut down because of the operations of the tariff of 1828, and business generally was about as bad as it could well be.

The financial condition being nearly the same in 1840, the presidential campaign of that year under the log-cabin, hard cider, "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" enthusiasm, served to secure to the Whig candidates a victory, and Wm. H. Harrison and John Tyler were duly elected as President and Vice-President of the United States and were inaugurated March 4th, 1841.

The population of Buffalo in 1840 was 18,213, and of the balance of Erie County 34,252, and of the Mile Strip in Elma about 180 persons of all ages.

These persons, with occasionally a family taking a lot, or part of a lot, continuing their struggles against all these difficulties made progress slowly, but all the time they moved ahead. Their land was cleared in the same old way, by chopping and burning. They worked up the best of the pine, ash and whitewood trees into lumber for the Buffalo market and after 1850, other kinds of timber as well as some cordwood was taken to the same market.

#### **PLANK ROAD TO BUFFALO.**

In 1849, a plank road was completed from Aurora to Buffalo. This road crossed the Mile Strip, and so furnished a good road all the year for the people to haul their heavy loads of lumber, wood and surplus farm produce to Buffalo.

The Davis Cemetery on Lot 36 of Mile Strip was laid out in 1854.

Notwithstanding that thousands of people were going west, and continued to go, the lands of the Mile Strip were, in 1856, practically all occupied by the sixty-five actual resident owners, only three hundred acres being non-resident land at that date. Improvements in the buildings and on the farms were being made. In 1856, the log house had nearly disappeared from the Mile Strip, having been generally displaced by the frame building, often painted white, and in many cases the windows were protected with green blinds, so that a white farm house with green blinds was not uncommon. Occasionally a farm house painted red with white trimmings would be found on some back road. Frame barns had taken the place of the log barn. The farms were gradually being cleared of stumps, so that the Mile Strip when the town of Elma was formed in December, 1856, had every appearance of being a long while settled and prosperous part of the country.

#### RESIDENTS ON THE MILE STRIP IN 1856.

At that time, many of the first settlers who came before 1842 were still residents and in addition, we find the names of Thomas Aldrich, John Q. Adams, D. K. Adams, Harmon Bullis, Salem Baker, Warren Brown, William Bates, John W. Cole, Salathiel Cole, Charles P. Cole, Stanlius Chickier, James Davis, William H. Davis, Isaac Ellsworth, James Ellis, Edward Fowler, James Head, Paul B. Lathrop, William Paine, George Peek, Christopher Peek, John W. Peek, Whipple Spooner, Harvey D. Paxon, John Scott, William Thompson, Robert Wiley, William D. Wallace, and others.

Some of these names will appear later as having held important offices in the town of Elma, and as having been leaders in public improvements, and as true and tried patriots when the country was threatened by the tornado of secession, and torn by that great cyclone, Civil War, in 1861-1865, when we, at the north had to meet friend and foe in our every day business, and the country was nearly split in twain and our existence as a nation was in jeopardy. Then was needed the public spirit and patriotic expression, which was given by most of the residents of the Mile Strip. All honor to their names! May their memories ever be held in sacred remembrance!

## CHAPTER VII.

### ESTABROOK MILL.—LANCASTER PART OF ELMA.

The "Indian Mill," also known as the "Estabrook Mill," and later as the Bullis Mill, with the house and barns for the mill hands and teams, were the first buildings erected by a white person in the town of Elma and as writers of the history of Erie County differ as to the year the mill was built; an effort was made to ascertain the exact date and accordingly, correspondence was carried on with persons most likely to know.

The most authentic data was received from Mr. John Estabrook, lumber dealer in Saginaw, Michigan, who, in response to information desired, replied by letter dated October 18th, 1897, as follows:

"My father, Seth Estabrook, was born in Bath, N. H., in 1785, married in Lebanon, N. H., in 1812, to Hannah Alden Hebard, daughter of Deacon Moses Hebard, whose wife was an Alden, a lineal descendant of John Alden and Priscilla Moline, of May Flower fame. (See Miles Standish's courtship, by Longfellow). In 1810, my father came to that part of the Holland Purchase, then known as the town of Clarence, in Niagara County, to look over the country, and he finally decided to stop in that part of Clarence, now Alden.

In 1816, he brought in a cart load of groceries, etc., with which he opened the first store in the town of Alden in a log house about three-fourths of a mile east from the centre of the present village of Alden. He was engaged as merchant and trader about fifteen years, and was always active in all that pertained to the welfare of the locality, and when a new town was set off from Clarence, March 27, 1823, it was at his suggestion and request named "Alden" in honor and memory of the original John Alden.

### MILL BUILT IN 1826.

The northeast corner of the Buffalo Creek Reservation was about half a mile directly south from Alden Village and the Indians who resided near there, with Chiefs from other parts of the Reservation were frequent visitors at his store. Being always friendly with them, in the fall of 1825, by an agreement or contract with Chiefs



Green Blanket, George Young, Thomas Jameson, a descendant of Mary, the White woman, White Seneca, Big Kittle and others, he obtained the privilege to build and run a sawmill on the Big Buffalo Creek, and to cut any timber that he should want within certain limits, for and during a term of ten years; the mill and buildings to revert to the Indians at the end of that term. Under this contract, in the spring and summer of 1826, he built the house of boards for the mill owner and his family, about ten or fifteen rods below where the mill was to stand; the milldam, and the sawmill and several board houses for the men and families who worked in the woods, cutting and hauling logs and for the hands about the mill, with board barns for the teams. After a few years these houses and barns were torn down and better ones built. These were built on a table-land ten rods east from the mill. These buildings were put up and occupied before the Ogden Company made their first purchase and two years before any building was put up by a white person on the Mile Strip in the south part of Elma; and sixteen years before the Ogden Company bought that part of the Reservation where the mill was located, and seventeen years before any building was put up, by a white person, in that

#### LEWIS M. BULLIS,

part of the town of Elma, not included in the Mile Strip. This saw-mill was for many years known as "The Indian Mill," and "The Estabrook Mill," and later, as the "Bullis Mill."

I, John Estabrook, was born in Alden, Erie County, N. Y., January 22d, 1826, and have always been told by my mother and older brothers that I was born the same year that the Indian Mill was built, and from that, and books and papers of my father that I have often seen, and which were for many years in the possession of my oldest brother, Experience Estabrook, I am certain that the mill was built in 1826.

My father operated the mill during the term of ten years, when in 1836, he made another contract with the Indian Chiefs, to continue for another term. He had delivered large quantities of lumber to Benjamin Rathbun, of Buffalo, whose failure in 1836 greatly embarrassed him, and he sold a share of his interest in the contract, to Lewis M. Bullis of the town of Hamburg. They operated the mill together until my father's death in 1840, after which Mr. Bullis had sole charge, but Bullis had Ballou and Trivett as partners.

Before the contract for this second term expired, the Ogden Company, by treaty with the Seneca Nation of Indians, secured the balance of this Reservation, and by some arrangement this



second contract was cancelled." From the foregoing, it seems settled that the mill was built in 1826.

James Sperry surveyed that part of the Reservation east of the Transit Line in July and August, 1840, while the Indians were in possession.

In 1842, the Ogden Company sent agents to appraise the value to the Indians of the Estabrook Mill so they could sell that property.

A contract was made with Bullis, Ballou and Trivett who operated the mill together until the fall of 1845, when Bullis bought out the Ballou and Trivett interest, and then Bullis bought of the Ogden Company the mill and lot on which the mill was located, also several other lots, the deed being from Joseph Fellows to Lewis M. Bullis, dated July 18th, 1846; the bargain and contract having been made some time before. Mr. Bullis retained the property and operated the mill to the time of his death in 1869.

#### ROADS FROM THE MILL.

The "Indian Mill" being located near the centre of a great pine forest, people came to it from Attica, Cowlesville, Leroy, Batavia, Alexander, Alden, Newstead, and Clarence for their pine lumber which made a good market for the products of the mill while the remainder of the product was sent down the Creek in rafts to Buffalo. Great quantities of pine shingles were made in the woods and sent to these markets. Whichever way the lumber went, there were several miles to go through the woods between the sawmill and good roads on the Holland Purchase; the way being marked and chopped enough to allow teams to go between and around the trees. High and dry ground was selected as far as possible for these roads and where directness of route required the passing over of low places, across brooks and swales or swamps they were covered or bridged by placing logs or poles side by side close together, across the road, thus affording a fairly firm roadway over these low places. This was called causeway or corduroy. These roads through the woods were rough, and in ordinary summer weather would be muddy, and in rainy seasons would be almost impassable. This condition of the roads continued for several years, and until the Ogden Company had made the purchase of the entire Reservation, and the survey into lots had been completed, and the lots sold to actual settlers. During these years most of the lumber taken from the mill to all these places was hauled in the winter.

The road from the mill, by which the lumber was hauled to Buffalo for several years, was to cross the creek 60 or 80 rods below the mill, then by a westerly and south westerly course reach the

high ground west of the mill, then by a woods road over nearly the same ground as the present highway, to near the Woodard house on the Bowen Road, then on through the woods to near where the William Rice house is located, then on a general west course to the road or trail from Aurora to Buffalo at Springbrook. After a few years, a bridge was built just below where the present Bullis bridge is located, and a road made up the hill where the road is located in 1900. From the mill to Marilla, the way was south through the mill yard to the foot of the hill at the east end of the present bridge, thence southeast, in a dug way up the bank, and along and near the bank of the creek for nearly a mile, then a general east course to Marilla village, then called Slab City, and Shanty Town, to a point just south of the Methodist Church, then east to the Four Rod Road, then north and east to Colesville. At the top of the high bank south of the mill was a fork in the road, the north road taking a general northeast course, crossed the Little Buffalo Creek about a mile from the Indian Mill, thence on the same general course crossing the Two Rod Road about one and a half miles north from Marilla Village, thence on to the Four Rod Road about a mile south from Bolt's, formerly Peck's, saw mill on the Cayuga Creek, then across the flats and up "Mud Hill," very near where road now is, to the Main Road about two miles west from Alden Village; distance from the mill to Alden village about eight miles.

#### OGDEN COMPANY MAKES SECOND PURCHASE.

The treaty between the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Ogden Company on January 15th, 1838, for the purchase by the Company of all the Indian lands in Western New York, which was signed by forty-five reputed chiefs and certified by the Commissioner from Massachusetts, and the United States Indian Agent, was rejected by the United States Senate on account of serious defects. A strong opposition to the treaty was being manifested by many of the Indians. The United States Commissioner called the Chiefs of the Senecas together August 7th, 1838, at the Buffalo Reservation to have a new and amended treaty signed. At this meeting, only sixteen Chiefs would sign, while sixty-three signed a remonstrance. It was claimed that a large part, at least forty-eight of these had no right to sign. This left the treaty as being favored by sixteen, and opposed by fifteen. There were at this time seventy-five actual Chiefs in the Seneca Nation, and there were ninety-seven who claimed to be Chiefs. Later, twenty-six more of the Indians signed the treaty, thus giving forty-two names; but many of the Indians claimed that only twenty-nine of this number were really Chiefs. This treaty was finally ratified

by the United States Senate. The Indians showed such a determined resistance and hostility to the terms of the treaty, it was clear to the Ogden Company, that it would be a long and costly process to gain possession through the courts, so they hesitated; but the prospects of the Company to gain possession of the Buffalo Creek Reservation were so good, that they set James Sperry to survey that part east of the Transit line, the Lancaster and the Aurora parts being surveyed and numbered separately, the old centre line of the Reservation being retained as the line between Lancaster and Aurora. The surveys were made in July and August, 1840.

The survey beginning at the northeast corner of Aurora, and the southeast corner of Lancaster, as the towns then were, the lots, in the east range in the Aurora part, were numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, the south line of Lot 4 being the north line of Lots 2 and 3 of the Lambertson survey of the Mile Strip. The lots in all the ranges were numbered from the north to the south, bringing the last lot, No. 102 in the southwest corner of the Aurora part of this purchase, and joining Lot 35 of the Mile Strip. By this survey, the centre line of the Aurora & Buffalo road was made the division line between the lots in this town.

The same plan was followed in surveying and numbering the lots of the Lancaster part; Lot No. 1 being at the northeast corner of the now town of Elma, the east range along the Marilla town line being 1, 2, 3, 4, reaching to No. 1, of the Aurora part, then back to the north line of the last purchase, always numbering from north to south, brings the last lot, number 106, to the Transit line and southwest corner of the then town of Lancaster, joining Lot 96 of the Aurora part. For survey of the Mile Strip see Chapter 6. So there are in the town of Elma three sets of lots numbered from one to thirty-seven: viz: on the Mile Strip and on the Aurora and Lancaster parts of the town, and two sets numbered from one to one hundred and two; viz., in the Aurora and Lancaster parts, and all deeds refer to the particular lot, as being on the Mile Strip, or the Aurora or Lancaster part of the town of Elma, or as being in Town 10, Range 6, of the Holland Land Company's survey. The Indians retained possession and the Ogden Company made no move to have the Indians leave, so no sales were made under that treaty.

#### BOWEN ROAD LAID OUT.

The Legislature, by act of May 4th, 1841, authorized the Board of Supervisors of Erie County to appoint three Commissioners to lay out a highway across the Reservation, and under that authority the Supervisors appointed T. S. Hopkins, C. B. Parkinson, Leonard

Wasson as such Commissioners, and on October 23d, 1841, they laid out a four rod road, commencing on the north line of Lot 20 of the Mile Strip, at the corner of Lots 51 and 55 of the Reservation; thence north on the line of lots to a point five chains north of corner of lots 54, 55, 59 and 60 on the Lancaster part, just north of the present Bullis road, thence northwesterly where the present road is traveled on lot 59 and 58, and on same course over the high bank to and across the Big Buffalo Creek; thence northeast to where they took the course to the north to where the present road is laid out, being near the centre north and south line on lots 57 and 56, to the south line of the first purchase; and to connect with the south end of a road laid out running south from James Clark's sawmill, now Bockman's mill. Later in 1843, an alteration was made from a point on the top of the hill south of the Big Buffalo Creek, to where the road is now worked down the hill, and across the creek, and to intersect the line of the first survey, at the southeast corner of a lot later sold to William H. Bancroft, now Jerge Brothers, in Elma Village.

To this road was given the name "Bowen Road," which is still retained. The Commissioner of Highways of the town of Aurora on October 29th, 1841, continued this Bowen Road across the Mile Strip and on south to the Aurora and Buffalo road. This was the first regularly laid out road across the Reservation in the town of Elma, and was to be the mainly traveled road between the villages of Lancaster and Aurora.

#### GIRDLED ROAD.—GEORGE STANDART, SEN.

The "Girdled Road," the second road across the Reservation, was laid out on line of lots, and as now traveled, by the Commissioner of Lancaster, on November 10th, 1841; and by Commissioner of Aurora on June 13th, 1843.

Mr. George Standart, Senior, hired the sawmill at Jack-berrytown, now Gardenville, of Chief John Seneca, for a term of four years, to commence at the expiration of the lease held by Leonard Hatch and Robert McKean, which date was October 22d, 1836. Standart's four year term would have ended on October 22d, 1840, but, through loss of time required to make repairs, he held possession until the spring of 1841; when he made a bargain with the Chief, to rebuild the mill and have the use of it four years for his rebuilding, dating from the time the mill would be completed, which would take to August or September, 1845. So Standart was running the mill when a council was held May 20, 1842.



At this meeting of the Indians of the Seneca Nation and the representatives of the Ogden Company, and Commissioners to represent the United States, Massachusetts and New York, fifty-three Chiefs, warriors and headmen of the Seneca Nation signed a compromise treaty, which was witnessed by seven representative business men of Buffalo.

By this treaty, dated May 20th, 1842, recorded in Liber 106, Page 194, the Ogden Company secured the balance of the Buffalo Creek Reservation with other lands, but the Indians, by the terms of the treaty, were to have possession of their improvements until April 1st, 1846, and were to be paid a price for these improvements, to be fixed by appraisers to be named by the Secretary of War of the United States. They mostly left in the spring of 1846 to make their homes on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations but a few remained until the spring of 1847.

John Carman came to Elma in May, 1842, and worked for Mr. Bullis eight or nine years.

#### EBENEZER SOCIETY.

Soon after the Company secured the right to occupy the Reservation, they had a chance to sell a 5,000 acre tract in one body to agents of a society known as Ebenezers; but calling themselves "The Community of True Inspiration." The agents chose their location, and this included Jack-berry-town, and they wanted the sawmill with the land. The Ogden Company were desirous to make the sale, but the lease of the sawmill to Standart was in the way, and to get rid of him, so that they could close the bargain with the Ebenezers, the Company gave to Standart a nice sum in gold and gave him the privilege of having three lots of land anywhere on the Reservation that he should choose, either as a present outright, or at a mere nominal price. Standart, in February of 1843, gave up the sawmill at Jack-berry-town.

#### EBENEZER'S PURCHASE.

The Secretary of War appointed Thomas Love and Ira Cook as appraisers, and the Ogden Company settled with, and paid the Indians, so they could have possession of the tract they wished to sell to the German company, and by agreement made in February, 1843, and April 11, 1843, the Company sold to the Ebenezers the 5,000 acre track, consideration \$50,000; and a little later other lands, in all 7622 acres. The deed is dated August 20th, 1844, recorded in Lib. 77, Page 34. Blossom Village in the town of Elma is on this tract.

Immediately after this sale, the Company had the remaining lands west of the Transit line surveyed; and then advertised that



"on and after August 14th, 1844, they would sell certain lots," including nearly all the lots in the town of Elma.

George Standart in the last part of February, 1843, made his selection of lots, viz.: Lots 50, 54, 57 in the Lancaster part and one other not now known. In March of that year, he built a log house on Lot 54, about twenty rods from the south line of the lot, and about fifteen rods from the west line, and near the west bank of Pond Brook. This was the first house built by a white man on his own land in the town of Elma, on that part of the Reservation known as the last purchase. Deed for Lot 54 dated October 19th, 1844, recorded in Liber 78, Page 14.

April 10th, 1843, Standart moved with his family into that log house; just fifteen years to a day after Isaac Williams and Russel Brooks, the first families moved on to the Mile Strip. April 10th ought to be called, known, and remembered, as Settlement Day for the Town of Elma.

#### STANDART BUILDS BARN AND SAWMILL.

That summer, Standart cleared off the southwest corner of Lot 54 and built a 30x40 foot frame barn near the south line of the lot, a little west from Pond Brook. Elisha Cotton, carpenter, put up the building. The barn is still there in May, 1900, but the log house was burned about forty years ago. During the winter and spring of 1844, Standart built a sawmill on Pond Brook, a few rods below his house. The Estabrook mill on the Big Buffalo Creek, built in the summer of 1826, was the first sawmill in the town of Elma, and this Standart mill was the second sawmill in the Lancaster part of the Reservation, and on the east side of the Bowen Road. Standart had employed a carpenter and millwright by the name of Fulford to build his sawmill, and to pay him for this work, he gave Fulford that part of Lot 57 lying west of the Bowen Road, and to a near relative by the name of Benjamin Plummer, he gave or sold the part of Lot 57, lying east of the Bowen Road.

The Bowen Road, which was laid out October 23d, 1841, was underbushes by Clement Wakeley, the Lancaster Commissioner of Highways, across the Lancaster part of the Reservation in the summer of 1843, and the contract to chop and clear out this part of the road four rods wide, put in the necessary sluices across the road, make causeways through the low and swampy places, and dig down the hill north of the Big Buffalo Creek so that teams could go with light loads, was let by Wakeley to Mr. Eleazer Bancroft, in the summer of 1843, for four hundred dollars, the work to be done in 1843 and 1844.

One piece of causeway road that was built was about forty rods in length, being from near the top of the school house hill, north of Elma Village, to near the Clinton street Road, this being over wet, swampy ground.

Eleazer Bancroft built the first bridge in the summer of 1844 across the Big Buffalo Creek on the Bowen Road, at the place where the present bridge is located, contract price \$196. It was carried away by high water and ice the next spring, and was rebuilt by Bancroft in the summer of 1845.

People living in the town of Elma in 1900 can hardly realize that only a little more than fifty years ago, the last purchase made by the Ogden Company, of which this town was part, was a vast wilderness; that a section of country five miles in width extended from Marilla Village on the east to the City of Buffalo and Lake Erie on the west; seventy-eight square miles of forest, with Indians as residents, the only road that could be traveled being the Aurora and Buffalo road across the southwest corner of the town, and George Standart, the only family of white people as resident owner, and the Estabrook, Hatch and Standart sawmills, the only mills on this last purchase in this town.

#### THE RESERVATION IN 1844.

This was the condition when the Ogden Company advertised that on and after August 14th, 1844, they would offer for sale most of the lands in the town of Elma.

After the treaty of May 20th, 1842, the Ogden Company engaged Zebina Lee, a resident of Oswego County, to come here and go over and examine the different lots as they had been surveyed; and to name the value or price per acre of each lot, and the lots, at first, were offered at the price he named.

Very soon after these lands were in the market, people came from Lancaster, Alden, Wales, Aurora, Colden, Hamburg, and from places farther away, to secure some of these lands; for reports of the heavy growth and great variety of timber, and the wonderful fertility of the soil had spread everywhere.

The first work of these new comers was to prepare for and erect log houses and sawmills. This called for many men as laborers to build the dams and mills and to supply the logs and to run the mills and also to take the lumber to market. These laborers must have houses for their families and soon the lots were bought near these mills and actual residents built and occupied their houses.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### EAST ELMA 1837 TO 1856.

The first sawmill built in the town of Elma and the houses and barns for the accommodation and shelter for the men and their families and teams as before stated, were erected by Mr. Seth Estabrook on the Big Buffalo Creek in 1826, and were known as "The Indian Mill, the "Estabrook Mill," and later, as the "Bullis Mill."

The second sawmill built in the town was by Mr. Jacob R. Davis on the Cazenovia Creek, about two miles south from Spring Brook in May, 1830.

The third sawmill, with log houses for the mill hands, and the first buildings put up in East Elma, were built by Leonard Hatch and Joseph Riley, in the spring and summer of 1837, known as the Hatch Mill, and later as the Hemstreet Mill. The three houses and the barns were about fifteen rods northeast from the sawmill.

The following statements as to the building and operating the mill, to the time the Ogden Company purchased that part of the Reservation, were obtained from members of the Hatch family, who now reside at East Elma, and, from original papers and records in their possession, will thus settle beyond a doubt the question as to the year in which the mill was built.

### LEONARD HATCH AT JACK-BERRY-TOWN.

Leonard Hatch of the town of Wales and Robert McKean of Aurora, on July 28, 1834, hired the sawmill at Jack-berry-town, now Gardenville, of John Seneca, an Indian Chief, and owner of the mill for a term of two years, to commence October 22d, 1834, at a yearly rent of \$140. They operated the mill these two years and in that time Mr. Hatch became acquainted with many of the Indian Chiefs and Indians of influence in that locality. On December 3d, 1836, a few weeks after their lease with John Seneca expired, Hatch made an agreement with two Indians, James Young and William Crouse, to build a sawmill on Pond Brook. The agreement is here given:

"Memorandum of an agreement made this 3d day of December, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, between Leonard Hatch of the town of Wales, in the County of Erie, of the first part, and James Young and William Crouse of the Buffalo Creek Reservation,

of the second part, witnesseth, that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the covenants and agreements of the said parties of the second part, hereinafter contained, covenants to, and with the said parties of the second part, to build and complete on the lands owned by the said parties of the second part, on Pond Creek, (so-called) on the Buffalo Creek Reservation, an ordinary sawmill; said mill to be situated on the said Creek a few rods below the road leading to Estabrook's Mill on said Reservation, in case the parties of the second part shall obtain consent of a majority of the Chiefs living on said Reservation that said mill be constructed; and the said party of the first part, further covenants to construct and complete said mill on or before the first day of September, 1837.

And the parties of the second part covenants, in consideration, that the party of the first part fulfill the covenants above made, to execute to the said party of the first part, on the completion of said mill, a lease thereof, and the appertenances, for the term of four years and six months; said lease to bear date on the day on which said mill shall be completed. And the said parties of the second part further covenants, to furnish to the said party of the first part, the timber standing in the woods necessary for the construction of said mill.

In witness whereof, the parties aforesaid have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

LEONARD HATCH [Seal.]

JAMES YOUNG [Seal.]

his

WILLIAM X CROUSE [Seal.]

mark.

On January 2, 1837, Young and Crouse went before the Chiefs of the Seneca Nation with their petition for the privilege to build a saw-mill on Pond Brook. The petition with the consent of the Chiefs is here given.

#### SENECA CHIEFS.

"To the Chiefs—We wish to know if you will allow us to build a sawmill at or on what is called Pond Brook, not far from the road that leads from Estabrook's mill to the Aurora and Buffalo road. We will go on and do what we can, and if we cannot finish it ourselves, we want the privilege of hiring white men to go on and finish the mill, and then hire it to them; white men to pay them, and when it is hired to white men, let them tend it. No white man shall cut any sawlogs on the Indian lands, but Indians may cut sawlogs, and may sell them to the white men if they want to, white

man to not clear the land for the mill yard, but we will clear it ourselves.

his  
WILLIAM X KROUSE,  
mark  
JAMES YOUNG.

Buffalo Reservation, January 2d, 1837.

We, the Chiefs of the Buffalo Creek Reservation, are all willing you should build a mill; we give our consent, and are pleased that you should do so.

Buffalo Reservation, January 2d, 1837.

their  
SENECA X WHITE,  
JOHN X SNOW,  
FALL X PETER,  
JOB X PIERCE,  
CAPT. X POLLAND,  
JAMES X STEVENS,  
JOHN X SENECA,  
THOMAS JIMESON,  
LITTLE X JOHNSON,  
marks.

their  
MR. X DOXTALOR,  
JACOB X BENNETT,  
SAMUEL X WILSON,  
WILLIAM X JONES,  
DANIEL X TWO GUNS,  
Z. L. JIMESON,  
WHITE X SENECA,  
TONY X YOUNG,  
GEORGE X JIMESON."  
marks.

#### SENECA CHIEFS.

That sawmill on Pond Brook was never built and from what followed, it is presumed that Hatch preferred to build a mill on the Big Buffalo Creek, and that Young and Crouse were willing that the change should be made; as the next day after the Chiefs had given their consent to the building of the mill on Pond Brook, the following petition was drawn up and signed:

"To the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for the County of Erie:

We, the undersigned Chiefs, Head Men and Warriors of the Seneca Tribe of Indians residing on the Buffalo Creek Reservation, in behalf of ourselves and the Indians residing on said Reservation do hereby request you to grant to Leonard Hatch, of the town of Aurora, in said county, a license to build and erect on said Reservation a sawmill and other machinery, together with a sufficient mill yard for the convenience of said mill for a term of four years from the 1st day of September, 1837.

Dated Buffalo Reservation, January 3d, 1837.

In presence of  
JAMES YOUNG,  
his

WILLIAM X KROUSE.  
mark.



Signed.

their

SENECA X WHITE,  
FALL X PETER,  
JOHN X SNOW,  
JOB X PIERCE,  
CAPT. X POLLARD,  
JAMES X STEVENS,  
JOHN X SENECA,  
THOMAS JIMESON,  
marks.

their

JACOB X BENNETT,  
SAMUEL X WILSON,  
WILLIAM X JONES,  
DANIEL X TWO GUNS,  
Z. L. JIMESON,  
WHITE X SENECA,  
TONY X YOUNG,  
GEORGE X JIMESON.”  
marks.

This petition does not locate the mill, and no doubt the permit was granted by the Court. The license cannot be found among Mr. Hatch's papers.

#### THE HATCH MILL BUILT.

Mr. Hatch, having by this license the right to build a sawmill, entered into a contract or agreement with Seneca White, White Seneca, Big Kettle and some other Chiefs to build the mill on the Big Buffalo Creek at East Elma, with the privilege to cut and use any timber standing in the woods for the construction of the mill and dam and the necessary houses and barns with the privilege to run the mill for four years from September 1st, 1837, when the mill was to become the property of the Indians; but they would lease it to him for a further term of years at a stipulated price.

Robert McKean's name does not appear in any of the writings or papers, and if he had any interest in the contract, he sold out to Joseph Riley of Aurora, for Hatch and Riley formed a co-partnership. They built the mill and operated it for some months as a company mill, after which Hatch bought Riley's interest and operated the mill, living with his family in the mill house until his death on June 21st, 1842. At the end of the first four years, viz., on September 1st, 1841, he made a bargain by which he had the lease of the mill for several years. The exact terms of that lease cannot be learned, as nothing can be found among the Hatch papers on that subject, but there must have been a contract, as he continued to run the mill until his death, nearly ten months after the first lease expired, and one month after the Ogden Company had made their purchase of the remainder of the Reservation. Mr. Zina A. Hemstreet, a brother of Mrs. Hatch, as administrator of the Hatch estate, carried on the business under this second lease and under contracts with the Ogden Company until he bought the property in 1855; then, and for many years the locality was known as "Hemstreet's Mill," also as "Frog Pond."

## ROADS FROM THE HATCH MILL.

The road from the Hatch sawmill to Bartoo's Mill, now Porterville, was southeast and east from the mill through the woods, very near where the road is now located. A log road from the mill led down the creek near the bank and west of the "Knob," coming off the flats north of Mr. Harvey C. Palmer's barn, then by a general east course over hills and through ravines to "Stave Town," so called from the great quantities of staves made from the oak timber in that locality. After 1843, lumber and staves went by the woods road, east to the "Two Rod Road," thence north through "Slab City," now Marilla Village, to Alden to be sent by the railroad to Rochester, where were many flourishing mills, and at that time the great wheat market for all Western New York. Rochester was then known as the "Flour City"; now they call it the "Flower City."

The road from the sawmill by which the lumber was hauled to Buffalo the first winter after the mill was built, was south on the ice, on the millpond, for about 100 rods, then south through the woods to the Adams Road, then west to the Indian trail or road from Aurora to Buffalo. In the summer of 1838, a bridge was built across the millpond about sixty rods south from where the present bridge is located; then westerly by a dugway to the high ground, and then by a general south course to the Adams road near Luther Adams' house, now owned by his son, John Quincy Adams, then to Buffalo. This road from the sawmill, took the Indian trail to the Adams Road, the trail still leading south to near the Rickertson place, crossing the town line into Aurora at or near the intersection of the road from Porterville, thence on near where the present road is located, to East Aurora. By this trail, the Indians living at and near East Elma, went to and from Aurora. The low places in this woods road between the sawmill and the Adams Road were crossed by the corduroy or causeway plan and patches of these log roads are to be seen in 1900, sixty years after they were built, on Col. Ellsworth Persons' farm on Lots 26 and 27. Most of the lumber was hauled from the mill in the winter until after the Ogden Company had surveyed their last purchase into lots, and many of the lots had been sold, when, on April 19th, 1845 the Jemison road was laid out on lot lines and worked as now traveled.

## INDIAN FAMILIES.

The same year that Mr. Estabrook built the "Indian Mill," viz.: 1826, the Ogden Company made their first purchase of part of the Buffalo Creek Reservation from the Seneca Indians. This pur-

chase of a strip from the north side of the Reservation one and a half miles in width, across the east end three miles wide, and along the south side one mile in width, compelled the Indians to leave that tract; and as a result, they mostly came on to the lands they had not sold; where they lived for sixteen years when, in 1842, by a compromise treaty, they sold the remainder of this Reservation to the Ogden Company, and then gradually left, going mostly to the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations. So it happened that for several years before 1842, there were quite a goodly number of Indian families living in what is now the town of Elma; some of them Chiefs, Warriors, Headmen, or men of importance and influence in the Seneca Nation.

Along the shores of the Big Buffalo Creek, from half a mile to a mile and a half east from Blossom, was quite an Indian village with a Council House, some twelve to twenty-eight families, but the names of these Indians cannot now be obtained.

At Elma Village, which place the Indians called "Big Flats," were a dozen or more families. Jillings, John Luke and Peter Snow had houses in what was later Hurd and Briggs' millyard, John Baldwin, John Hudson and Isaac Johnny John had their houses on the hill northeast from the others, Ben Johnny John lived with his brother Isaac, Judge Moses lived near the milldam, Fall John lived on the high bank just north of the milldam, Thompson lived on the high bank north of the Elma Cemetery, Little Joe lived on the table land now occupied as the Elma Cemetery, Little Joe's Boy lived where Mr. Joseph B. Briggs' house now stands, Joe Dudley lived in the sugar bush near the James Clarke house, Sam Beaver lived in J.B.Briggs' orchard and Thomas Snow lived on south side of the Creek. Their cemetery was a little southwest from Mr. J. B. Briggs' house, and for many years after these Indians had moved away in the spring of 1847, some members of the families would come every year to visit the graves of their departed friends.

At East Elma and vicinity was quite an Indian settlement, and at the "Indian Openings," one mile north, were several families; among them, Chief Big Kittle, and one Jimeson, a relative of Mary Jimeson, the White Woman. Sundown lived at the openings with about a dozen other families whose names cannot now be learned. Tommy Jimmie and another family lived half a mile south of East Elma village on the west side of the Creek. Chiefs Elijah Cayuga and his son William Cayuga lived near the Indian Cemetery half a mile southeast from East Elma. Charley Spruce and Silversmith lived near the Cemetery. Silversmith died at East Elma in 1895, and was taken to Cattaraugus Reservation for burial.

## INDIAN OPENINGS.

Chiefs Seneca White, John Seneca and White Seneca, brothers, were frequent visitors at East Elma up to the time the Indians moved from the Reservation. The "Indian Openings," so-called, north from East Elma, as before stated, was the living place for several families. As it fell to the lot of the Squaws to clear the land and raise the corn, beans and other crops, it was but natural that they should select as a place for a clearing, some spot where the timber was scattering or small, and this locality seemed to suit them; for they would select such a place and cut away and burn the small trees and soon have from half an acre, to two or three, or more acres, as the needs of their family required, on which to raise their provisions. Another family would select their place, it might be a few or several rods away from any other clearing, and so these little clearings or openings were scattered over quite a territory. In all, these clearings comprised some forty or fifty acres, mostly on the west side of the Creek; but one, of some ten acres on the east side with a good log house, was on land now owned by Mr. Edwin H. Dingman; the clearings on the west side of the Creek being mostly on lands lately owned by Mr. Frank Metcalf, Mr. Spencer Metcalf and the James Hopper estate. It is said by some of the old residents of East Elma that Chief Big Kittle was buried on land now owned by Spencer Metcalf, and a butternut tree is pointed out as having been planted at his grave at the time of his burial. Their Cemetery is one-half mile southeast from East Elma, and is preserved by the present owner of the land.

## INDIANS LEAVE THE TOWN OF ELMA.

Several other families of Indians resided one to two miles northeast of East Elma, among them Jack Johnny John, who was lame, and always used a crutch, and was known as Old Jack, who lived near the "Two Rod Road." He, with his family, remained there for many years after the other Indians had left the Reservation. Many of the Indians thought they had been cheated in the last sale and treaty, and they hoped to have that treaty set aside, and he lived there to show that they still retained and held possession.

Some eight or ten families had their wigwams for several years before 1844, about one mile southwest from the Elma Railroad station.

Chief Daniel Two Guns lived in a log house on the high ground on the north side of the Indian trail, later known as the Aurora and Buffalo Road, thirty rods easterly from where the Catholic Church was later built in Spring Brook Village. This house, with addi-



tions was for many years kept as a tavern, known far and near as the "Mouse Nest." Two families of Indians lived near the "Devils' Hole," on the west side of the Cazenove Creek, about one mile south from Springbrook, and several Indian families were in that vicinity. The Indians moved from the Reservation one to five years after the sale to the Ogden Company in 1842, after it had been the home of the Seneca Nation for sixty-five years. The lands in the vicinity of East Elma did not find rapid sale when first put upon the market by the Ogden Company, but few families were living there before 1850.

Thomas Hanvey built a sawmill, in 1854, on a small stream three-fourths of a mile north from East Elma, on land owned by Hugh Mullen in 1900. Isaac Gail opened the first store on north-west corner in East Elma in 1854.

A general improvement was noticed in the spring of 1856, as in the early part of the summer the first schoolhouse was built and the first school was kept by Miss Maria Hall after July 4th of that year.

#### RESIDENTS OF EAST ELMA, DECEMBER 4th, 1856.

Nathan Howard had a blacksmith shop on the north side of the road at the east end of the bridge. Russel Howard and Albert Crane built a steam shinglemill, thus opening up a new industry.

The locality was known by lumbermen as "Hemstreets Mill" but generally, the little settlement was known far and near as "Frog Pond" from a large swamp of some twenty acres a little distance east from the sawmill.

On December 4th, 1856, when the town of Elma was formed, we find the following persons residing in that locality, viz.: Abel N. Button, Albert Crane, John Darcey, Harry Dingman, Edwin Fowler, Isaac Gail, John W. Griffin, Thomas Hanvey, James Hatch, Niles Hatch, Zina A. Hemstreet, Daniel Hicks, James Hopper, Nathan Howard, Russell Howard, Thomas Ostrander, Amos P. Rowley, and Joseph G. Thompson. Only three or four of these persons are living in Elma in 1900.



## CHAPTER IX.

### ELMA VILLAGE AND VICINITY—1845 TO 1856.

We left the Lancaster part of the Reservation after Eleazer Bancroft rebuilt the bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek in the spring of 1845 as mentioned on page 95.

The Bancroft sawmill was raised in June of that year, 1845. June 2d, 1845, the Clinton street road was laid out from Bowen road to the Transit, and on September 21, the Bullis road was laid out from Buffalo Creek on the line of lots, west, to Lot 105. August 1st, 1845, Clark W. Hurd, Joseph B. Briggs, Allen and Hiram Clark bought of Fulford and Plummer their interest in Lot 57 (Deed from Joseph Fellows dated October 1st, 1845.) They then bought of Joseph Fellows (Deed dated May 1st, 1856) Lot 52, where was a good place to build a dam across the Creek and on August 5th, 1845, they commenced on the dam. As they lived in the town of Lancaster near the Town Line station on the Attica & Buffalo Railroad, they brought a supply of provisions for a few days and did their cooking by a fire built by the side of a log, and at night had a bed of hemlock boughs with blankets for what covering they needed at that time of the year.

They came by a road through the woods to where Deforest Standart built a house the next year, in 1900 owned by Jacob Young estate; then south to the top of the high bank, then down a dug way which still remains, and then southwest and south to the Creek, then up the creek to the dam. The Indians had patches of cornfields on the flats through which the right of way had to be bought before the millrace could be commenced.

### THE AMERICAN—1845-1846.

A board shanty 14 x 24, with an addition 12 x 24 for kitchen and bedroom, both of which were covered by a board roof, was built the last of August, 1845, for a boarding and lodging house for the men who were to work on the dam, race and sawmill. It was located on the west side of the Bowen Road, and the south bank of the millrace. This building was named "The American," and by that name was known until it was torn down in 1853. That fall, Mrs. Hurd and Mrs. Briggs took

turns, one week for each, in coming from their homes at Town Line and keeping The American. When winter set in, the mill company hired Peter Rolon and wife to occupy The American and board the hands. After the dam was completed and while work on the race was being pushed, a 30 x 40-foot barn was built about fifteen rods north from where the sawmill was to stand; later, this was known as Hurd's barn. It was in this town that the Indians held their war dance (See chap. II, page 33) late in the fall. The Indians left the "Big Flats" during the next spring. The sawmill was framed and raised before winter weather set in; the work on the race being done partly as job and partly by day work was carried into the winter. As the mill was to be a double mill, work was hurried to get the south saw at work before spring; the north saw was ready early in the summer of 1846.

Eron Woodard came in March, 1846 and worked for Mr. Bullis. Mr. Otis A. Hall moved on to the end of Lot 41, March 30th, 1846. Mr. Joseph Peck built the first frame house in what was later to be Elma Village, on the west side of the Bowen road, across the race, from The American. The house was later known as Osman Little's house, and is still standing in 1900. During the summer of 1846, J. B. Briggs and wife occupied The American and boarded the men; and a 30 x 40-foot barn was built on the west side of the Bowen road, later known as Briggs' barn.

Wm. H. Bancroft, in the fall of 1846, moved from Town Line, into a house built on the west side of the road. He built the first blacksmith shop there and carried on that business for several years. The place is now owned by Jerge Brothers.

#### LEWIS M. BULLIS.

Lewis M. Bullis, owner of the Estabrook Saw Mill, bought of Joseph Fellows Lot 16, 17, 23, 24, 25 and mill yard lot, in 1845, the deed being dated July 18th, 1846, and recorded in Liber 81, page 84.

In the fall of 1846, Deforest Standart moved on to Lot 51 on the north side of Clinton street road, where Mrs. Jacob Young lives in 1900.

Before the sawmills were in running order, in the summer of 1846, Hurd & Briggs bought the Clarks' interest in lands and mill; and after surveying from Lots 52 and 57, the land necessary for the mill, yards and race, was retained as company property. They divided the mill, in so far that Hurd was to have the south saw and Briggs the north, each to keep his own mill in repair at his expense and each to have an equal chance in use of the water;

but all heavy repairs on dam, race or mill were to be at company's expense.

A division of the balance of the real estate of the two lots was also agreed upon. Hurd was to take the east side of the Bowen road and Briggs to take the west side. This agreement was made in the fall of 1846, but the deeds were not passed until January 25th, 1851, recorded in Liber 113, page 241.

Immediately after the division was made, each made preparations for the erection of dwelling houses, and both houses were raised in the spring of 1847. Hurd moved into his house in June of that year, before it was finished, in fact, as soon as it was enclosed and with loose floors.

The Briggs family occupied the American until their house was completed and moved into it in November, 1848.

The first schoolhouse was a rough board structure, 12 x 16, built in the early summer of 1847 and with board roof and located on ground now occupied by the church. Miss Celina Standart taught school that summer and winter and the next spring in that schoolhouse.

#### BULLIS REBUILDS THE SAWMILL—1847.

Lewis M. Bullis, owner of the Estabrook Saw Mill, having bought several lots of land of the Ogden Co., in June, 1847, tore down the Estabrook Mill and rebuilt it in that summer, putting in a double mill; and he also built a box factory at the upper, or south end of the sawmill. The box factory building was southeast of the south end of the saw mill, with road way between the buildings.

In the spring of 1847, Peter Schane and Broadbeck moved on Lot 72, and Augustus Bonnell on the west part of Lot 66, now occupied by Benjamin Stetson, and Philip Young moved on the the east half of Lot 66, now Beidler's, in the summer of 1847; and Daniel Price on Lot 54, same year.

June 10th, 1847, the Clinton Street Road was laid out from Bowen Road east to the town line. March 18th, 1847, Mr. Jacob Young and Maria Standart were married and on June 12th they moved into a plank house, just enclosed, on the northeast corner of Clinton Street and Bowen Road. They had no cookstove and for three weeks she cooked by a fire built against a large stump. They lived during the next winter in the Alonzo C. Bancroft house that was built in the summer of 1847 on the east side of Bowen Road and on the banks of the Big Buffalo Creek and Pond Brook.

Cyrus Hurd and Hiram Kinney bought Lot 61 on the north side of Clinton Street Road, October 4th, 1847, and on November 25th

Hurd commenced work on a plank house 16 x 26 and 12 feet high, also on a frame barn 16 x 24, 7 feet high. The buildings were finished so that on December 25th, 1847 he moved from Town Line, with his mother and sister Sarah, into the new home.

On March 7th, 1848, Cyrus Hurd and Cordelia Hill were married and he brought his wife home that day.

A few other families were coming into the neighborhood whose names cannot now be learned.

### NEW SCHOOLHOUSE IN ELMA VILLAGE.

In the summer of 1847, Hurd & Briggs put a lathmill into an addition built by Zenas Clark, on the southwest part of the sawmill. At a school meeting held in the fall of 1847, it was voted to build a new schoolhouse and the site selected was on J. B. Briggs' land on the west side of Bowen Road at the top of the high bank, about fifty rods south from Clinton Street.

The building of the schoolhouse, the furnishing of all the materials, the building to be painted red, with white trimmings, was let to Hurd & Briggs and Eleazor Bancroft, for \$400; the house to be completed by July 1st, 1848. The contract for the labor was sublet to Peter Spade for \$50 and the house was finished on time. Miss Celina Standart moved her school into the new house and there finished her summer term. The lumber of the schoolhouse on the flats was taken to build a woodhouse on the north end of the new schoolhouse.

On September 10th, 1847, a road was laid out on the south side of the Buffalo Creek from the Bowen Road to the Girdled Road, later known as Chair Factory Road.

The Hill Road from the Bullis Road east of the Bullis schoolhouse north to Clinton Street Road was laid out December 6th, 1847, and at the same date, the Woodard Road, from the Girdled Road a little south from the Bullis Road to the Bowen Road, at what is now Elma Center, was laid out. Most of the other roads in the town of Elma were laid out after the town was organized.

1848.

Early in the summer of 1848, a Mr. Walker moved into the Bancroft house on the south bank of the Big Buffalo Creek and opened up a small stock of groceries, being the first store in Elma. Bancroft soon put up a building across the road, designed for Walker's store. Walker never moved into the building but bought a lot on the east side of the road and on the north side of the Big



Buffalo Creek, built a house there during the summer, and in the fall moved his family into the south part, while he used the north part for the store which he so occupied until he sold the house and lot to Oliver Clark, in the winter of 1850, at which time he moved family and goods to Marilla Village.

In the spring of 1848, George Standart, Sr., sold to his sons George and Washington twenty-eight and one-half acres of land from the south end of Lot 54 including the sawmill, log house and frame barn. George Standart, Sr., then moved into a plank house he had built on Lot 73 on the north side of the Big Buffalo Creek, three-quarters of a mile west of the Bowen Road. The boys, George and Washington, built a plank house at the north side of their millyard. That house was later occupied by William Standart until he built his brick house, when it was sold to Frederick Heineman, and moved to Lot 84 on the north side of the Bullis Road, and is in 1900 owned by Adam Bommer.

Osman Little bought the Joseph Peck house, on the north bank of the millrace and moved there in the spring of 1848, and lived there several years, running Hurd & Briggs' lathmill, having a share in the enterprise.

Jacob Jerge came in 1848 and commenced work with William H. Bancroft, to learn the blacksmith's trade.

In 1849, the Ebenezer Society commenced their settlement or village which they called Upper Ebenezer, (now Blossom) where they built a sawmill, gristmill, church, schoolhouse, and several houses for families, with store and Upper Ebenezer post office with some large barns.

February 26th, of the same year, the Bullis Road was laid out from Marilla town line, west to the corner of Lots 11, 12, 17, 18. John and George Freiberg, and Conrad Mertz moved on to Lot 46 on the north side of Clinton Street Road in the spring of 1849.

#### 1849.

The bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek on the Bowen Road was carried off by the spring freshet of 1849 and Mr. Eleazer Bancroft built another bridge during that summer. This bridge was damaged when the ice went out in the spring of 1851; was then repaired and remained until the iron bridge was built in 1871.

George Standard, Sr. and Oliver Bowen built a sawmill on the north side of the Big Buffalo Creek near the southwest corner of lot 73.

Samantha, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Standard, died July 15th, 1849. The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. George E. Havens, Methodist preacher at Lancaster. This was the first



death of a white person and the first sermon preached on the Lancaster part of the reservation. Samantha was buried on lot 73.

Soon after this, Rev. Havens and Rev. L. A. Skinner, the Presbyterian minister at Lancaster, commenced holding meetings in the school house on the hill at Elma Village, at two o'clock on alternate Sunday afternoons.

Rev. C. S. Baker was sent to Lancaster by the M. E. Conference in September, 1849. He came to Elma every other Sunday afternoon, alternating with Rev. L. A. Skinner through that conference year. In October, Rev. Baker organized a class in Elma. The members were: Joseph Briggs, George Standart, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Briggs, Florina Briggs and Mrs. William Standart. This was the beginning of the Elma Village Methodist Church and the preaching of Rev. L. A. Skinner was the starting point of the Presbyterian Church of Elma Village. Alonzo C. Bancroft and Jane Sleeper were married September 2d, 1849, and in a few weeks they moved into the house on the east side of the Bowen Road on the south bank of the Big Buffalo Creek.

#### 1849-1850.

In October 1849, the box factory building at the Bullis mills was burned, with all the tools, machinery and stock on hand, and the fire extended to the saw-mill which was also burned. Mr. Bullis immediately rebuilt the double sawmill and also put up a box factory building, also a shingle mill for making cut shingles at the lower or north end of the sawmill. The boxes made here were sold to wholesale dealers in Buffalo.

Hurd and Briggs built a shop 30x44 feet, at the southwest corner of their sawmill and west of the lathmill. This shop was to be supplied with power from the wheel of the lathmill.

Mr. Wm. Standart having sold his farm on the main road, two miles east of Lancaster village, in September 1849, moved in with his son Deforest on the north side of Clinton Street road on lot 51. The two families lived together until February 1850, when Wm. Standart, having on January 8th, 1850, bought of George Standart, Jr. and Washington Standart, the twenty-eight and one-half acres of the south end of lot 54, he then moved into the plank house at north side of the mill yard.

In the fall of 1850, Oliver Clark moved into Elma; himself, wife and brother Elon, and their shop hands boarding in J. B. Briggs' family through the winter, and late in the winter he bought of Walker the house on the east side of the Bowen Road and on the north side of the Creek, his brother Elon boarding with him. Together, as O. & E. Clark, they put into the Hurd & Briggs shop in

the fall of 1850, a Daniels planer and machines for matching flooring and making doors, sash and blinds. That fall they had a contract from Rufus L. Howard and Gibson T. Williams of Buffalo, to make the woodwork for 50 of the Ketchum Patent Mowing Machines.

In 1850, Theodore Noyes and sons Charles and Simeon, settled on lot 32, and George Krouse, the same year on lot 37 on the south side of Clinton Street road. Theoron Stowell and brother N. W. settled on lots 3 and 4, on the Bullis road; and Robert Simanton built a sawmill on the south side of the Buffalo Creek and east side of Girdled Road.

#### MEETINGS IN ELMA VILLAGE—1851.

The Ebenezer Company having bought lot 45, called their "Pine Lot," built a house on the Woodard Road now occupied by Fred Heitman, for the accommodation of its men when at work cutting logs, and this house was afterwards used as a "prison house," mention of which will be made later.

Allen French and Charles Noyes were in the lumber trade in Elma from 1850 to 1855.

The Methodist Episcopal Conference sent Rev. Gustavus Hines to the Lancaster, Elma and Bowmanville charge, and services were held every Sunday forenoon at Lancaster, and at 2 o'clock P. M., alternating between Elma and Bowmansville. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Clark, a brother of Mrs. Clark W. Hurd, came in October 1850; lived with the family of Clark W. Hurd that winter and the next spring and until he built a house, which was commenced May 6th, 1851 on the east side of the Bowen Road and near the north line of lot 59; the house being later owned by Stephen Markham and sold by him to Joseph C. Standart.

In the early part of the summer of 1851, Rev. L. A. Skinner's health failed, so he was obliged to give up the Elma appointment, but as Rev. Nehemiah Cobb, a Presbyterian minister as missionary from some church in Buffalo was preaching in Springbrook, he came and preached every alternate Sunday afternoon in the Elma school house during the summer of 1851, and until Rev. William Waith, the Presbyterian minister of Lancaster took up regular work in the summer of 1852. Mr. Cyrenus Wilbor, Mrs. J. B. Briggs' father, came in the spring and moved into the house on the west side of the Bowen Road, and north side of the Buffalo Creek. He had been elected in the fall of 1837 to the New York State Assembly from the town of Alden. C. W. Hurd and J. B. Briggs

each built a horsebarn, and a nice dooryard fence in 1851. A bridge was built across the Buffalo Creek at the Girdled Road and Simanton's mill, but it was carried off by high water in the spring of 1854.

A schoolhouse, 16x20, was built in 1851 on the hill on the east bank of the Big Buffalo Creek and north side of the Bullis Road. This building was used as a schoolhouse until 1880, when it was sold to Philip Stitz for twenty-five dollars, at which time the present schoolhouse was built.

Warren Jackman came on May 5th, 1851, and on June 3d bought lot 55 at the southeast corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads and on May 10th moved into the log house built in 1843 by George Standart on lot 54.

August 4th, Jackman leased a half interest in Joseph B. Briggs' part of the Hurd and Briggs sawmill for one year and during that year he was busily engaged in converting into lumber the timber from lot 55. Jacob Young was Jackman's sawyer for the year.

Elon Clark and Julia Standart were married May 12th, 1851. Clark built a house and barn on the west side of the Bowen Road across from where the church now stands in Elma Village. He occupied the house that fall.

In August, Oliver and Elon Clark had the contract from Howard & Williams for the woodwork for four hundred mowing machines. The Ketchum patents had been so perfected that it was proven that the meadows could be cut by horse power. The demand for mowing machines was accordingly becoming greater each year and the scythe which had been for so many years the only instrument for cutting grass was being gradually displaced by the mowing machine.

#### **MEN KILLED AT BARN RAISING.**

In June, 1851, at the raising of a barn on lot 72 now owned by Max Hornung, the first bent was raised all right; but it was left without any stays, to stand alone until the next bent and girts were in place, in order to fasten all together. While all hands were raising the second bent, a light wind blew the first bent over against the second and as the men saw it coming and realized their danger, a cry was raised to get out of the way, but the cry came too late. Three men were caught. Peter Shane had his head cut off by being caught between the timbers; one other man, name not now known, was so hurt that he died the next morning, and another also name not known, died three months later. Too much whiskey was the real cause of the accident.

Charles A. Dutton bought the lot next north of William H. Bancroft's and built a house on the west side of the Bowen Road and later, he built a wagonshop on the west end of the lot and on the east bank of the millrace.

Eleazer Bancroft and family, in April, 1852, moved into the house with Alonzo Bancroft on the bank of the Big Buffalo Creek and he made a dam across Pond Brook about twenty rods above his saw-mill, and erected a building for shop and for manufactory purposes; using the water as a power for the machinery. This shop was first used as a bedstead factory and later, as a chair factory. Later in the year he began to gather materials for building a brick house on the west side of the Bowen Road at the top of the hill south of the Creek.

A schoolhouse was built in 1852 in what was later known as the Cotton District on the south side of the Clinton Street Road about twenty rods east of the Girdled Road on the north end of Lot 20.

Peter Schultz in October moved on Lot 36 on the north side of the Clinton Street Road.

Rev. E. Reasoner, Methodist minister on Lancaster and Elma charge, preached every other Sunday afternoon alternating with Rev. Wm. Waith from Lancaster.

In July, 1852, Warren Jackman sold Lot 55 to James R. Jackman, and on August 4th he opened a store in the building on the west side of the Bowen road and on the south bank of the Big Buffalo Creek. On October 1st he moved his family into an addition that had been built on the west end of the store.

The place now known as Elma Village was called "Big Flats" by the Indians when they lived there, and after it begun to be settled by the whites, it went by the names of "Milford," or "Hurd or Briggs' Mills," and the place was known all around by all of these names. Letters for persons living there would be directed to Lancaster postoffice with any of these names added and the Lancaster postmaster knew where the letter or paper belonged. All the lumber, wood, and hemlock bark had to be hauled north to the "Main Road," then west through Lancaster Village to Buffalo or to Williamsville, except for a little time in the winter of 1850 and 1851 when a few loads would be hauled on the Clinton Street Road, by "Middle Ebenezer," now Gardenville, but loads could be hauled that way only in the winter. The "Main Road" was planked from Town Line to Buffalo, and to make the road good from the "Big Flats" to the Main Road, the mill owners and the wood and lumber haulers joined their forces and planked the



north and south road from the top of the hill at the schoolhouse thence north over all the bad and very muddy parts so that good loads could generally be hauled. As the people had their mail come to Lancaster postoffice, and in a new country people are generally accomodating, it was the practice for teamsters and others to call at the Lancaster postoffice and take any mail that might be for their neighbors. After Jackman's store was opened, the mail was generally brought or sent to the store and so the people grew in the habit of calling there for their mail.

#### ELMA POSTOFFICE.—1852.

One evening in the first part of October, 1852, when several persons were in the store, the question was asked, "Why not have a postoffice and have the mail brought regularly?" "Then we would know where our mail could be found." The reply was, "Why yes," and "Why not?" "But if we have a postoffice, we must have a name," and that brought out several names, none of them being entirely satisfactory until Mr. Joseph W. Bancroft said, "There is a big elm tree at the crossing of the Bowen and Clinton Street Roads; why not add the letter "a" to the elm tree and call the post office "Elma?" The suggestion was accepted and adopted and a committee was there appointed to draft a petition and obtain signatures for the Elma postoffice. Their work was well done; and on the second day after the evening meeting the petition was on its way to Washington and before October closed the Postoffice Department had sent a favorable reply with Warren Jackman named as Postmaster. As soon as the proper bonds were sent to Washington, supplies for the office were received with authority to contract for carrying the mail between Elma and Lancaster three times a week; the cost not to exceed the receipts of the Elma postoffice. Mr. Wm. H. Bancroft took the contract and so Elma postoffice received mails every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

#### CLARK, BRIGGS & CO.'S STEAM MILL.—1852-1853.

Benjamin F. Stetson and Amelia Markham, were married September 21st, 1852, and immediately moved on the west half of Lot 66 on the north side of the Clinton Street Road.

In October, Oliver and Elon Clark received an order from Howard & Williams for the woodwork for 1,000 mowing machines and fifty reaping machines. Their shoproom and power was put to a great strain and, as their business was increasing in all departments, they began to look around for more room and power and before the close of the year a co-partnership had been formed by and



between Oliver H. Clark, Elon Clark and Joseph B. Briggs. They decided to build a shop with steam power the next summer on land of J. B. Briggs on the west side of the millrace, and north of the Creek; the name of the firm to be Clark, Briggs & Co. During the following winter they gathered material for the building.

#### ELMA VILLAGE CEMETERY.

Oliver H. Clark died February 14th, 1853 and at a meeting of the neighbors held at the store on that evening, the conversation was as to the best place for a cemetery. The first place suggested was on William Standart's land on top of the hill east of Pond Brook and on the north side of the Bullis Road. The objections, that below the surface soil was a stratum of quicksand and the land on the east being wet and swampy would fill the graves with water, were considered good and sufficient.

The next place presented was on the top of the hill east of Pond Brook on the south side of the Chair Factory Road. The same objections, of quicksand and wet land, served to reject this place. Then the table-land on the north bank of the Big Buffalo Creek on land owned by J. B. Briggs, was named and after much talk, Mr. Briggs agreed to sell one and one-half acres for a cemetery. Mr. Oliver H. Clark was the first to be buried there on February 16th, 1853. The sermon was preached by Rev. Wm. Waith, a Presbyterian minister, living in Lancaster but then preaching every other Sunday afternoon in the Elma schoolhouse.

James R. Jackman moved here April 1st of this year.

At a meeting held at the store on the evening of April 4th, Mr. James R. Jackman, who was present at the previous meeting, entered into an agreement with Mr. Briggs that he, Jackman, would clear the said cemetery ground of stumps and rubbish, grade the ground and survey the same into ranges and lots, set out trees on the lots and on the west and north lines of the cemetery, and build a good fence; that he would keep account of the expense, and from the sales of the lots, at forty cents per foot of the length of the lot, retain enough to pay the expenses; that Mr. Briggs should execute deeds to the purchasers of lots and after Jackman had received his pay, Briggs was to receive the pay until he had received seventy-five dollars, when he was to deed the balance of the cemetery to the cemetery trustees, after which time they would keep up the fences. Each purchaser of a lot was to pay the forty cents per foot front for the lot, and then take care of his own lot.

Jackman immediately set to work and had the ground cleared of stumps, graded, surveyed and set to trees, and retained charge

until the fall of 1862, he having moved to Marilla in October 1859, when the grounds were left in charge of Mr. James Clark.

Mrs. Cyrus Hurd died June 30th, 1853. This was the second burial in the Elma cemetery.

Mr. James R. Jackman who came April 1st, bought of J. B. Briggs the building lot on the west side of the Bowen Road and between what is now the Cemetery Road and the Mill Race, and on which the "American" was then standing. He also bought of Hurd & Briggs, the right and privilege to erect and to continue a building over the mill race on the west side of the Bowen Road.

#### ELMA VILLAGE PARK.

Jackman also entered into an agreement with Hurd & Briggs by which the ground now used as a park on the east side of the Bowen Road and south of the millrace which was then used as a lumber yard, should be cleared of lumber and be deeded by them to Jackman in trust, for park purposes; Jackman to fence the ground, set it out to trees, care for the trees and keep up the fence so long as the trees should need protection, when it should be held, and belong to the public for a park. This agreement was faithfully carried out by all the parties, the deed bearing date May 10th, 1853 and recorded in liber 747, page 483, and the Elma people have had, and will continue to have the park through the liberality and public spirit of these parties as their free gift.

James R. Jackman and Warren Jackman, during that same summer built the house on the lot now occupied by Wilbor B. Briggs, took down "The American," in which was more than 5,000 feet of lumber and built the store over the mill race, lately occupied as a store by Louis P. Reuther. Both house and store were occupied by Jackman in October.

The store has since been occupied by Warren Jackman, Riley Ives, J. B. Briggs & Co., James Clark, Erastus J. Markham and Louis P. Reuther, each having the care of the postoffice most of the time. Rev. Schuyler Parker and Rev. William Waith hold meetings in the schoolhouse at 2 P. M. on alternate Sundays.

The material gathered during the last winter by Eleazer Bancroft, for a house on top of the hill south of the creek was, under the plans of Mr. Joseph W. Bancroft, arranged, put together and made into the brick house in which Mr. Bancroft lived until his death which occurred many years later.

#### STEAM MILL BUILT—1853.

About fifty persons assembled in C.W. Hurd's sugar bush on the east side of the Bowen Road and just east of the present site of the

church on July 4th, 1853, for a basket picnic and by that, inaugurated a system of 4th of July picnics that have been continued with but few exceptions to this time.

On August 23d, Mr. Eleazer Bancroft met with a very severe accident. While sawing the shingles for his new house, he had the misfortune to have his right hand come in contact with the saw which so injured that hand that he was to a great extent, deprived of its use.

Mr. William Standart had his brick house on the east side of the Bowen Road up and enclosed before winter set in.

Clark, Briggs & Co., had their building ready, with a sixty horsepower steam engine in place, and lathes, circular saws and a saw-mill with sash saw all ready for work in the early fall. They had an order from Howard & Williams for the wood work for 2,000 moving machines and 500 reaping machines.

Howard & Williams, by substituting iron for the cutting bar, reduced by so much the wood work, but the success of the mowing machine called for larger orders and the reaping machines were beginning to drive the grain cradles from the fields of grain. The reaping machine cut, and with a reel, gathered the grain on a platform and a strong man was required to watch the platform and when enough grain was gathered for a bundle, to rake it from the platform. Four or five binders followed the machine to bind and set up the grain.

The Methodist Society of Elma Village was organized December 23d, 1853.

### MOTHER FREIBURG'S CHURCH.

There being a Catholic church and a Presbyterian or Union church at Springbrook and the Ebenezer church in upper Ebenezer (now Blossom), the fourth church in what is now the town of Elma, was built on the north side of the Clinton Street Road on lot 46 in the summer of 1854 and was to be a Catholic church or chapel. This was built mostly for John Freiburg's mother, an old lady known among her neighbors as mother Freiburg, who felt very badly on leaving her home in Germany as she feared she would be deprived of her church privileges. While getting her things together preparatory to moving to America, she found a five franc piece for which she could find no owner and she took it to her priest and there told him what were her fears as to America. The priest told her to take the piece of money with her and she could find a good place to use it when she was there.

After the family was settled on lot 46 and mother Freiburg found it difficult and often impossible for her to go to Lancaster to attend

church, she made an offering of the five franc piece to the priest in Lancaster and he told her to keep it and use it towards building a chapel near her home in the woods. So with the five francs and the help of her neighbors, the chapel 10x14, side walls 8 feet in height, was built. It was a plank building, sided with clapboards, cornice and painted white on outside, lathed and plastered inside, door in center of south end, with window in centre of each side, and the priest came from Lancaster for several years, twice a year, and held services in Mother Freiburg's church.

The building was sold in 1870 to Gardner Cotton and moved on his lot, No. 20, where it has since been used as a hen house.

Frederick Maurer bought lot 27, corner of Clinton Street and Girdled Roads, and moved on in the summer of 1854.

#### SCHOOLHOUSE HILL.—1854.

Early in the spring of 1854, Clark W. Hurd and Joseph F. Clark commenced to build a sawmill on Pond Brook east of Clark's house and near the north line of lot 59. Work was progressing favorably, when Clark was taken sick, and after a few days illness, he died August 22d, 1854.

This was the third burial in the Elma cemetery. Mr Hurd went on with building the sawmill and operated it until he sold the premises to Mr. Stephen Markham in October 1858.

Early in the summer of 1854, Eleazer Bancroft built a large barn in the bank on the south side of Big Buffalo Creek and west of the Bowen road.

The school house hill as left by Bancroft in 1844, was so steep that it required the united efforts of two or three teams to haul up a full load and as nearly every owner of land near the sawmill was doing more or less at lumbering, this extra team help to get up the hill was no inconsiderable disadvantage. Accordingly, a meeting was called and a subscription started to raise money to reduce the incline of the hill. Sixty-five dollars was raised and James R. Jackman agreed to commence at the center of the hill and make a grade from that point so that the deepest part of the cut should be four feet and carry that grade to the high ground for the top of the hill. The dirt from this cut was used in filling a road bed below the center point so as to make as nearly as possible a true grade from the bottom to the top of the hill; and it was specified that the work was to be done so as not to impede travel. Jackman started the work by taking the east half of the cut, the work being mostly done by men using picks, shovels and wheel barrows.

When the cut was made through on the east side, the travel took that cut while the process was being used to take down the west



half and when the job was finished, the roadbed was very nearly as is it in 1900.

Howard & Williams, having made great improvements in their reaping machines and their use being so much increased, they gave Clark, Briggs & Co., the contract to make the woodwork for 2,000 mowing machines and 1,500 reaping machines. This required an increase in the number of men to work in the shop and they employed during that winter fifteen to twenty men, working twelve hours each day. A few of the men were paid according to the amount of work which they did, but the greater number were paid by the day. It had been the custom for many years, and was then, for carpenters and all mechanics who worked by the day to work from sunrise to sunset, even in the longest days; and when the days were shorter, to work from daylight to darkness or continue into the evening. Clark, Briggs & Co., required twelve hours for a day's work throughout the whole year; and as the engine was started promptly on time they expected every man to be in his place, ready to work.

#### NO SALOON.—1855.

The Simanton bridge was carried off by the spring freshet of 1854. George Townsend bought the house and lot on east side of the Bowen Road in Elma Village of C. W. Hurd, later owned by Mrs. Maria Long.

William J. Jackman and Frances Markham were married September 20th, 1854 and in the spring of 1855 moved into their house on Lot 55 on the southeast corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads.

Early in the spring of 1855, a rumor was circulated that a person who had just moved into the village intended to open a saloon.

As each mill owner, lumberman, or company, engaged in manufacturing, as well as almost every owner of land in the neighborhood employed one or more and often several men as day laborers, this rumor caused considerable excitement, and a general indignation meeting was held at the store and strong objections were made against having a saloon in the place. Finally, a delegation was sent to have the person who was reported to be making such arrangements, come to the meeting. At first, he refused to come, but finally he consented.

The objections that had been made before he came were repeated to him, but he claimed as he had bought the property, he had the right to use it as he saw fit. The objection, that if a saloon was opened, many of the day laborers would be likely to spend their



evenings there and by drinking and keeping late hours, could not properly perform their work the next day, he said, was nothing to him; that he had made up his mind and should open the saloon as he had the wing on his house already built and would be ready to open up in a few days.

These remarks aroused the opponents of the saloon, and in language in which there was no chance of being misunderstood, the saloon man was informed that there would be no saloon opened in the village; that if he made the attempt his belongings would be thrown into the street; and if that would not be enough, they would tear down his house. He said, then they would pay for the house; then they said they would gladly do so or buy him out. Of one thing they were sure, that there would be no saloon opened in the village. The general tone and feeling was such that the saloon was not opened and there has never been intoxicating liquors sold in Elma Village, which fact accounts largely for its prosperity. There has been, however, for several years a saloon at the corner of Bowen and Clinton Street Roads. During this same year, Bradley Moore, built a sawmill on the Little Buffalo Creek on Lot 6 on the South side of the Clinton Street Road.

A bridge was also built across the Big Buffalo Creek on the girdled road at Simanton's sawmill to replace the bridge carried off in the spring freshet of 1854.

#### RESERVATION CENTRAL PLANK ROAD.

The Reservation Central Plank Road Company was organized to plank the Bullis Road; and the road was in 1855 partly planked from Bowen Road to the Aurora plank Road in West Seneca.

#### J. B. BRIGGS & CO.—1855.

In August, 1855, Warren Jackman sold the goods in his store to Riley Ives, and Ives kept the store.

Jackman then bought Elon Clark's interest in Clark, Briggs & Co. property and business, and the firm name was changed to J. B. Briggs & Co.

The manufacture of broom handles was added, and the company had an order from Howard & Williams for the woodwork of 2,000 mowing machines and 2500 reaping machines which required a working force of twenty to twenty-five men.

The M. E. Conference sent Rev. — Gordon to the Lancaster and Elma charge, but on account of poor health, Gordon left in the spring of 1856.

A Frenchman by the name of LaGore who lived on Lot 69 on the north side of the Bullis Road shot himself with a rifle. He was

sitting in a chair outside of the house when he placed the muzzle of the rifle to his neck and with his toe pulled the trigger—result: throat torn open causing instant death.

Jacob Jerge bought of Charles A. Dutton his shop on the east bank of the mill race near the steam mill and commenced the business of blacksmith for himself in that shop.

Sawmills were being put up on every stream where a fair supply of water could be had and several steam mills were being started in different parts of the town, the lumber finding a market in Buffalo.

#### 1856.

In 1856 a bridge was built across Big Buffalo Creek at Bowen and Standart's sawmill, and a road laid out south to the Bullis Road.

Henry D. Wilbor bought the interest of his sister, Mrs. Oliver H. Clark, in the J. B. Briggs & Co.'s business, but the name of the firm was not changed.

Elon Clark died June 7th, 1856, and was buried in the Elma cemetery. Rev. A. Newton, of Lancaster and Elma charge, preached in the schoolhouse, alternating with Rev. Wm. Waith.

In July, J. B. Briggs & Co. shut down work in the shop for repairs. They put in a Mulley saw, rotary planer, turning lathes, and other machinery and built an addition for a cheese box factory. Mr. R. L. Howard, now sole owner of the Ketchum patents, having made changes in the mowing machines, all the woodwork required for them was the pole, and J. B. Briggs & Co. had the contract for 2000 mowing machine poles and the woodwork for 4000 reaping machines.

Cyrenus Wilbor, father of Mrs. J. B. Briggs, died September 12th. Riley Ives sold the goods in the store at auction, and the latter part of September went to Lancaster.

J. B. Briggs & Co., in October, put into the store a stock of goods in connection with the steam mill business.

On December 4th, 1856 the Board of Supervisors formed a new town from the south part of Lancaster and the north part of Aurora and gave the name of Elma to the new town. The account of the whole proceedings were noted in chapter IV. In some histories of Erie County, it is stated that the town of Elma was formed December 4th, 1857.

#### RESIDENTS ON DECEMBER 4th, 1856.

It has not been possible to obtain the exact year that many of the early settlers came on to the Lancaster part of the Reservation, and many who were here before the town was organized, December

4th, 1856, have moved away or have since died, so the names of all the residents at that time cannot now be obtained; but among those who were here then, are the following:

George Ard, Joseph B. Briggs, Erasmus Briggs, Lewis M. Bullis, Matthias Baker, Eleazer Bancroft, Wm. H. Bancroft, Alonzo C. Bancroft, Albert Bancroft, Henry Beidler, Hiram Bacon, Hiram Cotton, Gardner Cotton, John Carman, Daniel Christ, Peter Caulfield, Charles A. Dutton, Heman Dean, Ziba Dewitt, Allen French, John Frieberg, Michael Greiss, George Gentsch, Christ Garby, Fred Garby, Zenas Hill, Clark W. Hurd, Cyrus Hurd, Otis A. Hall, Frederick Heineman, James R. Jackman, Warren Jackman, Wm. J. Jackman, Jacob Jerge, Casper Jerge, Philetus Johnson, Hiram W. Kinney, Jacob Knaab, George Krouse, Joseph Klein, Carl Keim, Lawrence Krouse, Osman Little, John Luders, John Ludemon, Benj. P. Lougee, Jesse Monroe, Bradley Moore, Fred Maurer, Fred Mann, Charles Mann, Theodore Noyes, Charles Noyes, Amasa Noyes, Eleazer Nouse, John Nouse, Peter Oberly, Lewis Ott, Daniel Price, Joseph Peek, John Pomerink, William Standart, Deforest Standart, Wesley Standart, George Standart, Sr., George Standart, Jr., Washington Standart, Benj. F. Stetson, John Schmaltz, Henry W. Stitz, Philip Stitz, Theoron Stowell, N. W. Stowell, Thomas Summerfield, Harry Stone, George Shufelt, Peter Schultz, Thomas D. Tiffany, Orvil Titus, George Townsend, William Winspear, John Wolf, Henry D. Wilbor, Jacob Young, Adam Young, and the members of Ebenezer Society at Blossom, and some other names not known.

## CHAPTER X.

### SPRING BROOK AND VICINITY.—1834 TO 1856.

An Indian sawmill had been built on the Cazenove Creek at or near the Transit line; but it was gone before any white settler came into the town of Elma. It probably was carried away by high water, as the only trace left of it was the race, also some large stones that had been a part of the foundation for the mill. No person now living ever saw the mill and it cannot be learned by whom or when it was built.

The early settlers in the towns of Wales, Holland, and Aurora had their road to Buffalo by the way of Hamburg, called the Big Tree Road; but they soon learned of the nearer way of the Indian trail, and after the Mile Strip had been secured by the Ogden Co., the Commissioner of Highways of the town of Aurora, April 21st, 1832, laid out a highway on or near the Indian trail, and on the lot lines across the Mile Strip. When that track was surveyed, the lot lines were made to conform to this trail as nearly as possible; and to continue this road on toward Buffalo, the same Commissioner, on March 31st, 1834, following the same trail, laid out a highway from the road at North Star Tavern, across the Reservation through Spring Brook to the Transit line. By what authority the Commissioner acted is not known, but it is presumed that the Indians gave the necessary consent as it was entirely across their lands. This road was later to be known as the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road.

1837.

For several years before the Aurora and Buffalo road was laid out across the Reservation, on March 31st, 1834, there was a log house on the north side of the Indian trail on the hill in the east part of the Village of Spring Brook, which was occupied by an Indian Chief by the name of Daniel Two Guns.

A man by the name of Burns had kept the North Star Tavern in 1837, and while there he was so strongly suspected of making counterfeit half and quarter dollars that officers visited the place.

They found moulds, tools and some material in his cellar but he so stoutly maintained that he knew nothing about it, and that the things had been left there without his knowledge, that he was not arrested, but he soon left the tavern.

In 1839, this same Burns and Plin Barnum hired of Two Guns, his house for a tavern. They started to build a barn and shed to accommodate travelers who should call on them. While framing timber for the barn in the woods near there (for it was woods all around the place), the wind broke a limb off an oak tree, under which they were working. The limb striking Burns on the head, killed him instantly. This was the first death by accident on Elma soil.

Plin Barnum and his brother, Chauncey, then put up the barn and shed and kept tavern in the Two Guns house in 1839 and 1840. This was the first house occupied by white people at Spring Brook.

After the Barnums, H. B. Denio kept the tavern two years, from 1841 and to the spring of 1843. This house was kept as a tavern for many years and was known far and near as the "Mouse Nest."

#### "MOUSE NEST"—1842.

As stated in a previous chapter, the parts of the Buffalo Creek Reservation, in the towns of Aurora and Lancaster were surveyed and numbered separately. The Indian trail on and near where the Aurora and Buffalo Road had been laid out, was the only road across the town of Elma, leading to the city.

The lumber from the Hatch sawmill, and the people from the east end of the Mile Strip, and from Wales, Aurora, Colden, and Holland, went by that road and the lumber from the Estabrook sawmill came through a woods road on and near where the Woodard and Rice Roads are now located, reaching the Aurora and Buffalo Road at Spring Brook. When the Ogden Co., by the treaty of May 20th, 1842, secured title to the balance of the Buffalo Creek Reservation from the Seneca Indians, the treaty gave to the Indians the privilege of possession and occupancy of their improvements until April 1st, 1846, and until the improvements were paid for by the company. By this arrangement, Two Guns and his assignees had the right to keep the Mouse Nest Tavern until April 1st, 1846; and the tavern was kept as before stated by Plin and Chauncey Barnum in 1839 and 1840, and by H. B. Denio in 1841 and to April 1843, by Felstein to April, 1844, and by David J. Morris, from April, 1844, to the fall of 1845. The Indians residing on the Aurora part of the Reservation nearly all left for the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations in 1844 and



1845; a few remaining until 1846. The Davis road from Spring Brook south across the Reservation, was laid out June 20th, 1842.

#### 1844.

The Ogden Co., after having made a sale of the 5000 acre tract to the Ebenezer Company, in April, 1843, settled with the Indians for their improvements on this 5000 acre tract and had the balance of the Reservation west of the Transit line surveyed; and the company advertised "that on and after August 14th, 1844, they would sell certain lots, which were marked on their map of the Reservation. Those marked comprised a large part of the town of Elma."

As the Aurora part of Elma was settled mostly by people coming from Wales, Aurora, and Hamburgh, all going to Aurora to elections and town meeting; and the Lancaster part settled largely by people from Lancaster and Alden, they going to Lancaster for election and town meeting, there had been but little communication between the early settlers of these two parts previous to the formation of the town of Elma on December 4th, 1856. So it has seemed best to treat the early settlement of the Aurora and Lancaster parts of the town separately, up to the time the town was organized.

The Hatch Mill (East Elma) part was mentioned in Chapter VIII; and the Lancaster part in the previous chapter; and now, we take up the settlement of the balance of the Aurora part, or Spring Brook and vicinity.

#### SPRING BROOK NAMED—1844.

Near the Indian trail and now on lot 71 on the north side of the Aurora and Buffalo Road and a few rods southeast from Daniel Two Guns house, was a large spring.

At that time all around was a dense forest, allowing but little if any evaporation and the melting snows and the rains gradually settled into the low places in the woods, the swamps retaining the water which was slowly given up by the soil in numerous springs (most of them now dry), but then giving a steady and in many cases a large supply of water. This Two Guns spring was one of the very large springs giving a stream many times larger than in 1900; the water crossing the road on to lot 82, taking a westerly course in a gully, growing gradually deeper, passing on to lot 81, where the gully came near the bend in the Cazenove Creek, only a narrow bank thirty feet high separating them; then the brook takes a northwest course nearly parallel to the highway, passing on to lot 84, where at the Northrup Road it enters a wide ravine

and makes way along the east side of the Northrup Road to the Creek. This spring and brook gives the name to the Village.

#### FIRST SAWMILL AT SPRING BROOK.—1844.

While David J. Morris was keeping the Mouse Nest tavern, in September 1844, Lewis Northrup and George Baker, both of Aurora, made the first purchase of land at Spring Brook, when they bought lot 84 in the west part of Spring Brook, the lot lying between the Aurora and Buffalo Road and the Cazenove Creek; the deed from Joseph Fellows being dated January 1st, 1845, and recorded in Liber 79, Page 317. Immediately after they bought the lot in September, 1844, they began to clear the ground and prepare for building a sawmill and to build a millhouse for the family to board the hands. While this work of preparation was going on, the men boarded with D. J. Morris at his tavern. To furnish room, Morris built a frame addition (16 x 24 feet, 12 feet high) to the log tavern for a sitting room, and this frame building was enclosed on the outside with siding, and lathed and plastered inside, and is used by Charles Thayer, owner of the premises in 1900, as a kitchen and woodhouse.

This Two Guns tavern is the only log tavern ever kept in Springbrook, and this addition is all the tavern, in whole or part, frame or log, that David J. Morris ever built.

In October of 1844, Lewis Northrup moved his family from Aurora into the plank mill house; living there and boarding the hands while the dam and sawmill was being built, and, until he built a frame house on the north end of the lot, and on the southwest side of the highway in the spring of 1845.

Horace Kyser, Asa Palmer and John Morris, came in the fall of 1844. Kyser bought fifty acres in the centre of lot 75, of William D. Waddington; deed dated September 1st, 1845, recorded in Liber 81, Page 80. John Morris built a house on the southeast part of lot 82.

#### 1845.

On April 19th, 1845, the Aurora Commissioner of Highways laid out the Rice Road, from the Girdled Road west on lot lines to the Aurora and Buffalo Road, at the northwest corner of lot 75; the Pound Road, on east line of lot 83 and the Jimeson Road, from Marilla town line, west, on lot lines through East Elma, to the Aurora and Buffalo Road, at the northwest corner of lot 63.

The bridge at East Elma across the Millpond, went off with the spring freshet, and a new bridge, nearer the sawmill was built on the lot lines during the summer of 1845.

Northrup and Baker completed their double sawmill on the north bank of the Creek in the early part of 1845 on the site now occupied by Eli B. Northrup's sawmill. Northrup and Baker operated their mill as a company mill about one year, when Northrup sold his interest to Baker.

Zenas M. Cobb bought lot 83 and built a house opposite the Northrup house and moved into it in the spring of 1845.

On May 1st, 1845, David J. Morris bought of Northrup and Baker sixteen and four one hundredths acres of lot 84, being that part of the lot lying east of the road to the sawmills; and that summer he built a house on that lot, into which he moved that fall from the tavern, and where he lived many years; and, on September 1st, 1845, he bought of Joseph Fellows, twenty-five acres of the west end of lot 75, being all of lot 75 west of Kyser's fifty acres. Deed recorded in Liber 81, Page 77; and, as he owned on both sides of the Road he sold off small lots to make the village of Spring Brook.

In the summer of 1845, Zebina Lee and family came from Oswego County and lived with Asa Palmer in an Indian log house on lot 67. While there he built a plank house on lot 76 where Mr. O. J. Wannenmacher now lives and into which he moved in the fall of 1845. William M. Rice moved on to Lot 56 in the fall of 1845.

Thomas Flannigan came in the fall of 1845 and moved into the Mouse Nest tavern which he kept two years. He bought of Joseph Fellows part of Lot 71, the deed dated November 29, 1847. He sold or rented the Mouse Nest tavern stand to Holmes who moved into the tavern in the fall of 1847.

On November 1st, 1845, Northrup & Baker bought a mill site and privilege of Joseph Fellows on the south side of the Creek and opposite the sawmill, being six and ninety-five one hundredths acres off the north side of Lot 85 where the gristmill now stands.

#### 1846.

In February of 1846, Northrup & Baker had a sawmill on the south side of the Creek ready for business and in the course of the summer, Northrup bought out Baker's entire interest, thus becoming owner and operator of both mills. During that summer he built a bridge across the Creek below the mill.

Nathaniel Graves moved with his family from Aurora in the spring of 1846, and worked for Northrup at the mills, living in one of the mill houses.

Joseph Grace came in the spring of 1846 and bought of D. J. Morris, one and one-half acres of land west of and adjoining Horace Kyser on which he built a house and blacksmith shop, the first of

its kind in Spring Brook and in December he bought of Louis Northrup twenty-five acres off the east end of Lot 75. In May 1846, Joseph Tillou moved with his family on Lot 66 on the south side of the Rice Road.

The first schoolhouse, 24x 30 feet in Spring Brook, was built on the present schoolhouse site in the spring of 1846; to be ready for school on June 1st and to be completed by November 15, contract price \$254; deed from David J. Morris, dated October 23d, 1850. The first school was kept by Miss Calpherina Johnson of Holland in the summer of 1846.

Truman Case built a house and moved on Lot 52, on the west side of the Bowen Road in the summer of 1847.

#### SPRING BROOK POSTOFFICE.—1848-1849.

Alfred Marvel and James Davis moved on their farms south of Spring Brook in the early part of 1848.

William Jones in 1848 bought the five acre lot on the west side of the Davis Road south of Spring Brook, later known as the Talmadge place, and built a house on the lot. The same summer, Jones opened a meat market in a building on the southeast corner of the Davis and Aurora roads.

The Spring Brook Postoffice was established in 1848, with David J. Morris as first Postmaster. This was under President Polk, and Morris had the Postoffice in his house, until after President Taylor was inaugurated in 1849.

The first steam sawmill in Spring Brook was built in 1848, by Finley Robinson and William English, on the lot across the road from Kyser's house.

The bridge that Northrup built in the summer of 1846 across the Creek below the sawmills, went out with the ice at the spring break-up and freshet in 1849.

James H Ward, Esq., moved into Spring Brook May 11th, 1849, and that summer the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road was built through Spring Brook and was completed to Buffalo that year; so that heavy loads of lumber, cordwood and farm produce could be hauled to the Buffalo market.

On June 23d, 1849, the Aurora Commissioner of Highways laid out a highway from the Plank Road east of Northrup's house to the Transit line, crossing the Cazenove Creek below the saw mills, and let the building of a bridge across the Creek at that point. The bridge was built that summer.

1850.

Joseph Grace moved his blacksmith shop and family on to the twenty-five acres, on east end of Lot 75, which he bought in 1846.



Nathaniel Graves built a house and blacksmith shop on the lot west of the Pail Factory lot and there worked at his blacksmith trade.

Zenas M. Cobb was appointed Postmaster of the Spring Brook Postoffice under President Taylor in 1849; and had the office in his house until after President Fillmore was inaugurated in 1850.

A steam sawmill and pail factory was erected on the lot across the road from Horace Kyser's house by William H. Corbin in June 1849 with J. J. French and Sherman Roscoe as proprietors. Deed from John Morris dated February 19th, 1850, recorded in Liber 117, Page 482. A fifty horse power engine was put in to drive the sawmill and factory machinery. This gave employment to quite a force of men. The pails, tubs, and other articles manufactured, found a ready market in Buffalo and the business was carried on by this company for two or three years.

The steam sawmill built by Robinson & English in 1848, burned in 1850 and another steam sawmill was immediately built on the same grounds by George and Edward Good.

In 1850, E. G. Kent bought of D. J. Morris the lot at the southeast corner of the Northrup and Plank Roads, and built a store, putting in a good stock of goods for a country store and this was the first store in Spring Brook.

John McFee bought of Hiram Harris, on February 20th, 1850, the lot on the southwest side of the Plank Road, on Lot 82, and that summer built the house now across the road from the Catholic church and opened a saloon, at that time called a "grocery."

James Dunbar moved into the Mouse Nest April 1st, 1850, and kept the tavern one year.

Eron Woodard and Martha Bostwick were married April 22d, 1850 and moved on to Lot 52, on the west side of the Bowen Road, on land bought of Truman Case.

Cyrus S. Spencer moved into a house on the north side of the Plank Road at west end of Lot 71, and had his shoeshop in the building at the corner of the Davis and Plank Roads, known as the Meat Market in the early part of 1850, and here he worked for about two years.

D. L. Wilson came on May 7th, 1850 and worked for Lewis Northrup. The Spring Brook cemetery was laid out by D. J. Morris in the spring of 1850. Two children of Austin J. French had been buried there in August and September 1849.

James H. Ward was appointed Postmaster of the Spring Brook Postoffice in 1850, under President Fillmore. He held the office four years and until the Postoffice was moved to West Seneca.

The first church built in Spring Brook was the Catholic church, 20 x 30 feet on the north side of the Plank Road and east side of the



Rice Road on Lot 71; the deed being from Thomas Flannigan, to John Timon, dated February 23d, 1850; recorded in Liber 111, Page 43, and another deed, with some difference in the boundary lines from the first deed, but each description to contain one acre. This deed, from Thomas Flannigan to John Timon, is dated September 18th, 1850, recorded in Liber 94, Page 229; and here, at the junction of the Rice and Plank Roads was the church built. It served as a place of worship for the members of that society for about twenty-four years when it was moved on to the east end of the acre lot and was for many years used as a barn for their parsonage; the present fine church building having been erected in 1874. A part of the east end of the lot was set off as a cemetery.

#### 1851.

James Wolcott built a blacksmith shop at west end of Lot 75, and carried on blacksmithing one and one-half years, then sold to John Barnett.

The bridge which was built across the Creek below the mills in 1849 was carried off by the ice and freshet in the spring of 1851 and was rebuilt that summer.

James Dunbar moved April 1st, 1851, from the Mouse Nest tavern into the building on the south side of the Plank Road, later known as the Leger place, where he opened a store of dry goods and groceries and a saloon.

James W. Simons, on April 1st, moved into the Mouse Nest tavern and having bought the property, began to change the appearance of the place. During the summer he tore down the log house thus removing one of the Indian land marks and in its place erected the two-story frame building which was for many years used as a tavern and is now owned and occupied by Charles Thayer as a family residence.

As soon as Simons new building was sufficiently completed so as to admit of occupation, he opened it as a tavern.

John McFee, having the year before built a house and opened a saloon across the Plank Road from the Catholic church, as soon as Simons tore down the log tavern, he, McFee, opened up as a tavern.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILT.

In 1851 or 1852, Rev. Nehemiah Cobb, who had been sent in 1849 by some Presbyterian church in Buffalo as a missionary, succeeded in getting contributions and donations so that he had a church built on the western part of Lot 75, on land purchased or donated by David J. Morris, where religious services were held for several years.

1852.

In May, 1852, Lewis Northrup moved the plank house which he had built on the south side of the Plank Road in the spring of 1845, and put in its place another much larger and better house which is owned and occupied in 1900 by Eli B. Northrup as his residence. The old house was later sold to Horatio Winspear, and by him it was moved into the town of West Seneca, on the north bank of the Cazenove Creek.

Cyrus S. Spencer, having bought the building lot at the south corner of lot 84 on the southwest side of the plank Road and between the road and the Spring Brook cemetery, had his house ready to raise and it was raised the same day and by the same gang of men who had raised the Northrup house.

Dr. James Gilmore came to Spring Brook in the summer of 1852 and with his family lived in a house across the Plank Road and nearly opposite to the Congregational church; and on October 22d, of that year, he bought of Henry G. Stamback, the house and lot on Lot 82, on the southwest side of the Plank Road, joining McFee on the south.

William Jones, on April 3d, 1853, bought James Dunbar's store of goods in the Leger store and carried on the business for one-year.

John Barnett came in the spring of 1853, and in the fall bought Wolcott's blacksmith shop at the west end of Lot 75, at the junction of the Pound and Plank Roads, and opened up for business—the fourth blacksmith shop in Spring Brook. This shop is, in 1900, the leading shop in the village. Although it has changed hands several times since 1853, the shop has been run continuously.

1853-1854.

In the summer of 1853, Lewis Northrup built an addition on the lower end of the sawmill, on the south side of the Creek, for a gristmill, and had it ready for business in the fall of that year.

George Leger moved into Spring Brook in the fall of 1853, living in the millhouse on the south side of the creek, working for Mr. Northrup in the gristmill for nearly three years.

Wm. Jones, in April, 1854, with James Dunbar, left Spring Brook, taking their goods to Wales where they carried on the mercantile business for one and one-half years, when Dunbar left for California.

Asa J. W. Palmer was appointed Postmaster of the Springbrook Postoffice, in 1854, under President Pierce; but he refused to qualify or to take the office. After considerable correspondence, the Postoffice Department at Washington, in order to force Palmer to take the office, issued orders for the Spring Brook Post-office to be removed to West Seneca, and directed

Henry Hill, the Postmaster of the West Seneca Post-office to take charge of the Spring Brook office until Palmer should qualify. This removal of the office, was a great inconvenience to the Springbrook people, and after much urging Palmer gave in, and qualified, having the office in his house on the north side of the Plank Road east of the school house, on Lot 75. Palmer held the office only a short time, when James W. Simon was appointed, with Mrs. John McFee as assistant; and the office was moved from Palmer's house into McFee's grocery where it was kept when the town of Elma was formed, and until Austin Twitchell was appointed in January 1861.

#### 1855-1856.

No very important changes were made in 1855; business was fairly good with the mills, lumbermen, farmers, and stores; the steam and watermills were very hard at work as the farmers were clearing their lands and were taking all the timber that would make a sawlog to the mills, and then take the lumber to Buffalo.

Northrup's gristmill, at the lower end of the sawmill, on the south side of the Creek, was taken off by the freshet of January, 1856, the bridge below the mills going at the same time.

The bridge was rebuilt during that summer.

Eli Simmons came from Buffalo in February, 1856. The Pail Factory business having been closed out and the property having changed hands several times in a few months, Lewis Northrup bought it November 6th, 1854, and he then sold the property to Henry Meeker and Myrtle Wattles, (the deed dated March 1st, 1856, recorded in Liber 172, page 34), and they changed the building into a tannery, and opened a general store in a building on the same spot, occupied by Richard Barnett's brick store in 1900.

George Leger and Anthony Diebold, in the spring of 1856, bought George and Edward Good's steam sawmill, and that summer they put in a gristmill.

The Erie County Sunday School Association was organized in Buffalo in May, 1856.

Stephen Northrup's store on the south-west corner of Aurora and Northrup Roads was finished and trade begun in December, 1856, with flour, feed and groceries; soon he put in general merchandise.

On December 4th, 1856, the Supervisors of Erie County formed a new town from parts of Aurora and Lancaster, the proceedings of the Board having been fully set forth in Chapter IV, to which reference is made.

## RESIDENTS IN SPRING BROOK AND VICINITY, DEC. 4th, 1856.

When the town of Elma was formed, December 4th, 1856, the business at Spring Brook was about as follows:

Northrup's sawmills on both sides of the creek, Leger & Diebold's steam sawmill and gristmill on Lot 81, Meeker & Wattle's tannery and store on Lot 81, E. G. Kent's store at Northrup Road on Lot 84, Stephen Northrup's store at Northrup Road on Lot 84, James W. Simon's tavern (the rebuilt Mouse Nest) on Lot 71,, John McFee's saloon and grocery on Lot 82, blacksmith shop of John Barnett, on west end of Lot 75, Joseph Grace's blacksmith shop on east end of Lot 75, postoffice in McFee's place on Lot 82, schoolhouse built in 1846 on Lot 75, Presbyterian church built in 1852 on Lot 75, Catholic church built in 1850 on Lot 71. It is not possible in 1900, to give the names of all the residents of Spring Brook and vicinity, when the town was formed, but among them we find the following, a few living in 1900:

John B. Bristol, Luke Baker, John Barnet, Stephen Calkins, Zenas M. Cobb, Patrick Conley, Bernard Conley, Anthony Diebold, John Davis, James Davis, Wm. H. Davis, Patrick Donohue, Milton H. Dunham, Wallace W. Fones, Thomas Flannigan, Joseph Grace, James J. Grace, Wm. W. Grace, Dr. James Gilmore, John Hannivan, Wm. Hunt, Peter Kihm, E. G. Kent, Stephen Kinsley, Horace Kyser, Charles Kennedy, George Leger, Zebina Lee, George Lee, Wm. M. Lockwood, John McFee, Henry Meeker, John Morris, David J. Morris, Lafayette Morris, Alfred Marvel, Lewis Northrup, Eli B. Northrup, Stephen Northrup, Asa Palmer, Asa J. W. Palmer, Patrick Phalen, Lyman Parker, Wm. M. Rice, Michael Schnorr, James W. Simons, Lewis Sisler, Eli Simmons, Cyrus S. Spencer, Joseph Tillou, Isaac Tillou, James Tillou, Harrison Tillou, Erastus Tillou, Charles Talmadge, C. J. Talmadge, Wm. Thayer, Myrtle Wattles, James H. Ward, D. L. Wilson, Thomas E. Wier, Elias Weed, Charles Whitney, Noah Wertman.



## CHAPTER XI.

### TOWN OF ELMA—1856-1858.

When the town of Elma was formed, December 4th, 1856, about one-half of the land of the last purchase of the Ogden Company in the new town, consisting of 9,000 acres, was owned by about three hundred actual residents. More than 5000 acres were owned by non-residents who had bought for speculation. The Ogden Company had about 3500 acres, and as it advanced the prices, it seemed that it was not very anxious to sell, for it was sure of still higher prices. This statement does not include the Mile Strip part of the new town, as that had been in the market nearly thirty years, and in that time had been changed from a wilderness to well cultivated forms.

The method of clearing the land of timber on the last purchase was very different from that practiced by the early settlers on the Holland Purchase and on the Mile Strip. Instead of cutting down the trees and burning the timber so that crops could be raised, only the decayed parts of the trees as were not fit for cordwood, were burned in log heaps. The new plan was to utilize the timber to turn it into money; so every tree of every kind that was suitable for a sawlog was taken to the sawmill and made into lumber to be used for buildings or fences on the farm or hauled to Buffalo where there was a ready market and where all necessary supplies could be obtained.

The timber not suitable for sawlogs was worked into cordwood, the soft wood, viz.: bass, elm, ash, hemlock and pine, had a ready market at the railroad station, steamboat docks, brick yards, glass factories and at all shops and factories where steam power was used. The hard woods, viz.; maple, beech, oak and hickory was the fuel for the families and offices. This was before coal was very much used as a fuel in Buffalo and every manufactory, steamboat, railroad locomotive, as well as every family used wood for fuel.

Hemlock bark found a ready market at the tanneries at Aurora, Springbrook, Ebenezer, Buffalo, Lancaster and Williamsville.

This method of clearing the land was much slower and required every much more labor than the old way of chopping, logging and burning; but the object now was to have the timber pay for the



necessary labor, support the family, and pay for the land. Sawmills were built on every stream and in almost every neighborhood in Elma to work up the timber, consequently lumber was easily obtained. After 1854, very few log houses were built on this last purchase, the new houses being made of plank, or of balloon frame and clapboards, with shingle roofs. The doors and window sashes were made by machinery—a long step in advance of the old way of the carpenter hewing and framing timber for the frame of the house and from the rough boards to saw and plane and work all the lumber for the house by hand and hard work.

#### SAWMILLS—1856.

Cookstoves and ranges had largely supplanted the fire-place and Dutch fire for cooking and heating, and when the town of Elma was organized in 1856, in many of the houses rag carpets were on the floors of the best rooms. The farmers raised little or no wool or flax. The older women did not have to card and spin, and the girls were not taught these branches of housekeeping in order to furnish the family clothing; these kinds of labor were for the days of "long ago." All the cloth for the family and much of the clothing, ready made, was obtained from the village or city stores. Before the town was formed in 1856, there had been built and operated the following mills for working up the timber, viz.: The Estabrook or Indian Mill built in 1826, having two saws and later known as the Bullis Mill on the Big Buffalo Creek, to which Mr. Bullis had added a lathmill, machinery to saw and cut shingles and a box factory.

The Davis mill was built on the Cazenove Creek in 1830 by Mr. Jacob R. Davis, on the Mile Strip. The Hatch mill was built in 1836 on the Big Buffalo Creek at Frog Pond, now East Elma, later known as the Hemstreet mill, with planingmill and lathmill attached. Northrup's two sawmills were on the Cazenove Creek at Spring Brook. The Shindler mill was a few rods south of the south line of the Mile Strip on the Cazenove Creek with lath and shingle mills. Howard & Crane's steam shinglemill at East Elma, Hanvey's sawmill on a brook three-quarters of a mile north of East Elma. Barto's sawmill on the Big Buffalo Creek, a few rods east of the east line of the town of Elma, the Simanton mill on the south side of the Big Buffalo Creek a few rods east of the Girdled Road, Hurd & Briggs' double mill at Elma Village, with machinery for sawing shingles and lath, Eleazer Bancroft's sawmill, lath and shinglemill on Pond Brook at Elma Village, Clark W. Hurd's sawmill on Pond Brook, William Standart's sawmill on Pond Brook, north of Bullis Road, George Orr's sawmill on Crooked

Brook on Bullis Road, Bowen & Standart's mill on the north side of the Big Buffalo Creek, three-quarters of a mile below Elma Village, William Winspear's mill on the south side of the Big Buffalo Creek on the Winspear Road, the Ebenezer mill at Upper Ebenezer, now Blossom, on the Big Buffalo Creek, Orvil Titus' sawmill on the Little Buffalo Creek on Lot 3, and Bradley Moore's sawmill on the Little Buffalo Creek and on south side of Clinton Street Road. Besides these water mills there were several steam mills, viz.: A steam sawmill and pail factory at Spring Brook, built by Corbin, French & Roscoe; changed to Meeker & Wattles' tannery, a steam sawmill, built at Springbrook, by George and Edward Good, but owned by George Leger and Anthony Diebold; one built on Lot 52 of the Aurora part of Elma, west of Eron Woodard's barn; Samuel Pound's mill on the Bullis Road, on Lot 90, Dimert & Rost's mill on the road north of Schmaltz corners; and J. B. Briggs & Co. steam mill in Elma Village, built by Clark, Briggs & Co., with lath, shingle, planing and factory machinery.

These nineteen water mills, with twenty-three saws, and five steam mills with Mulley saws, and the lath and shinglemills were working up the timber before the town of Elma was formed; and most of the water mills were run night and day a large part of the year, the streams generally furnishing a steady supply of water.

When by heavy rains or the thawing of the snows there would be a freshet, a large part of the water was held back in the swamps and low grounds, gradually making its way to the streams, thus furnishing a steady and continuous supply.

After the lands were cleared, the farmer, by means of drains would take the water off his lands as soon as he could. The rush of water after a heavy rain would cause a flood for a few hours; then would follow a season of short supply of water for the mills, until we had another rain, but drains were not much in use until the timber was pretty well worked up, when there was not so much need for a steady supply of water for the mills.

Several of these mills had been built and running only one, two, three or five years with the result that in 1856, when the town of Elma was organized, about one-fourth of the timber on the last purchase had been worked up as here stated, and as the work continued, more mills were being built and timber removed, and as the years pass we find the old growth of timber is rapidly going.

Lumber had all the time been cheap, hemlock bringing in the Buffalo market five to eight dollars per thousand feet, and for a year or two before the town was formed, there had been signs of an approaching financial crisis. Prices for lumber, wood and manufactured articles were gradually going down and the settlers on the last purchase were having the same financial experience. that

had come to the early settlers on the Mile Strip. Very few of those who had bought lots of land of the Ogden Company had paid in full for their lands; many had paid down only a small part of the purchase price; expecting that from the timber and their labor they could support their families and make the payments as they would come due; and as but little land was cleared from which to raise crops, most of the family supplies had to be bought, and the interest, and payments must be provided for. As lumber and cordwood were the only articles they had by which to raise money, these were sent to the market regardless of the price.

### HARD TIMES.

There had been a great increase in the population of Buffalo within the last few years, but that increase had been made largely by people of moderate means, or of the poorer and labor classes; and while every family in the city used wood as their fuel, the hard times with scarcity of work, made it hard for the city laborers, and so only the wealthy were able to buy a full load of wood, and many times the whole or a part of the price would be paid out of the store. These were the conditions in 1856, and continued with but little improvement until the commencement of the Civil War in 1861.

The early settlers in the town of Elma will remember to their last day the hard times from 1854 to 1861

### 1856-1857.

During this time there was a great disturbance and mix-up in the political parties of the country. The Whig and Democratic parties were broken to pieces on the slavery question; the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; the new Fugitive Slave Law, and the complications caused thereby. The Native American or Know Nothing organization, but most of all, the slavery question, between 1854 and 1860, kept the country in a very disturbed condition. Old party lines were wiped out; new conditions and combinations caused such changes in parties that the results of an election were all uncertain, and a general breaking up of old party lines and ties brought about the forming of the Republican party in 1854 and 1855.

The Democratic party elected James Buchanan as President at the November election in 1856, but this did not settle the differences which were of a national character, while the local elections passed off with but little interest.

The first town meeting in the town of Elma, held at the house of Clark W. Hurd in Elma Village, on the 3d day of March, 1857, was, under the circumstances, a matter of great interest, and, by many persons at that time thought to be the most important town meeting ever to be held in the town. There had been a very strong feeling of opposition to the formation of the new town, especially among the residents of the Mile Strip; as they lived, many of them, within two to three miles of Aurora Village where they had always went to elections and for all of their town business. They did not like the idea of going four to seven miles and among strangers to do their voting. As the time for the town meeting drew near, the feeling of opposition grew stronger; and when the call for a caucus was called, the "Opposition," or as it was called "The Peoples' Party" met in the Woodard schoolhouse at the corner of the Bowen and the Rice Roads at 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon April 30th, and made up a full ticket, called the "Peoples' Ticket." Party lines were not thought of. Those in favor of the formation of a new town met the same afternoon at the hotel in Spring Brook and made up a ticket of those who were in their way of thinking.

On December 4th, 1856, when the Board of Supervisors of Erie County, by a vote of twenty-eight to three adopted the resolution forming a new town, from parts of Aurora and Lancaster to be named Elma, they directed that the first town meeting should be held at the house of Clark W. Hurd on the first Tuesday of March, 1857; and they appointed James H. Ward, then an acting Justice of the Peace in the town of Aurora, Lewis Northrup, Joseph B. Briggs and Deforest Standart, to preside at that first town meeting. The said Board, in organizing, appointed Warren Jackman as clerk.

#### THE FIRST TOWN MEETING IN ELMA—1857.

This was a very spirited meeting, no thought of whether the candidates on the tickets were Democrats, Republicans, Know Nothings, or Abolitionists, but the issue was joined and the contest though the day was in favor of, or in opposition to the formation of the new town. The result was that the entire "Peoples' Ticket" was elected, viz:

Supervisor, Paul B. Lathrop; Town Clerk, Warren Jackman; Justices of the Peace, Addison Armstrong, Thomas Aldrich, Nathan W. Stowell; Collector, Asa J. W. Palmer; Assessors, Zenas M. Cobb, Horace Blood, Theoron Stowell; Com. of Highways, Whipple Spooner, Benj. P. Lougee, Alfred Marvel, (held over from



town of Aurora); Overseer of the Poor, Wm. Standart; Constables, Asa J. W. Palmer, Aaron Hitchcock, Isaac Freeman, Franklin Mitchell, Wm. J. Jackman; Inspectors of Election, Wm. H. Bancroft, John W. Cole, John Schmalls, appointed; Town Sealer, Elbridge G. Kent.

It was voted that the next town meeting be held at Hurd's tavern which was being built at the corner of the Bowen and the Bullis Roads.

See tables in Chapter XXI., of officers elected at the town meetings in the years 1857 to 1900.

#### PRISON HOUSE OF THE EBENEZER SOCIETY—1857.

As stated in a previous chapter, the Ebenezer Society bought of the Ogden Company, Lot 45, in the Lancaster part of the town, with their other Elma lands, and this was called their pine lot. On this lot they built a house on the Woodard Road, now occupied by Fred Heitman, for their men when they were cutting logs, and that house came later to be called their "Prison house." It got the name in this way. The Ebenezer Society had a branch of their company in Canada, and it was one of the rules with the elders or rulers that if a single man or unmarried woman, either here or in Canada, had an idea of marriage, that they must be separated for a year; the man if living here, being sent to Canada, and if living in Canada, being sent here, and for a year to be without correspondence or communication in any way. If at the end of a year they were of the same mind, the marriage ceremony would be performed.

It happened about the year 1857, that a couple, members of this society, came to an agreement as to marriage, and they decided between themselves, that they would not be separated a year before marriage; so they were secretly married, probably in Buffalo. The fact of the marriage, and in that showing a disregard of the Society, soon came to the ears of the ruling elders; and the culprits were called upon to answer yes or no to the charges in the complaint. Their plea of guilty, was accepted; and as a punishment they were banished, and sent to this house, there to remain in solitary confinement, so far as they or any member of the society was concerned for one year. They were supplied with clothing and provisions, the man to work in the woods, peeling bark, cutting logs or wood, but they must not speak to any member of the society who came there, nor was any member of the society to speak to them, and no written communication was allowed to be sent either way. The only way they could know what was going on, or hear from,



or send word to their friends, was for some friendly German, not a member of their society to act as a go-between. This was kept up for the year when the prisoners were released and went among their friends. It caused much talk and indignation among the people of the town. About this time the Ebenezer Society applied to the Legislature, at Albany, for an extension of their charter. The Legislature refused and it was reported that this prison incident was used against the society, the claim being made that their rules and requirements were not in conformity with the spirit of our institutions. The managers then sent agents to the west to find a suitable location. After obtaining a charter from the Legislature of Iowa for a long term of years, they bought a large tract of land in that state, and then they sold their lands in West Seneca and Elma and gradually left for their new home and in 1863 or 1864, they all removed to Iowa.

The manners and customs of the people in this country were very different from the practices of the Prussians in Europe, and this difference was soon noticed by the young people of the Ebenezer Society.

They were near the growing city of Buffalo and were surrounded by thousands of people who had come from Germany who were enjoying greater liberty and many privileges which were forbidden to them, and this acquaintance and association with these neighbors naturally led them to think that some of the rules of their society were altogether too arbitrary, especially this rule about marriage, and these ideas growing and extending caused much trouble for the managers of the society.

On December 18th, 1856, Meeker & Wattles sold the tannery property to Thomas B. Tilden and on March 28th, 1857, Tilden sold to John Eighme and Israel P. Bowen, and on June 24th, 1858, Eighme sold his interest to Henry Meeker.

In the Spring of 1857, George Leger bought Diebold's interest in the steam saw and gristmill in Spring Brook, and operated both mills on his own account.

The first bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek on the Winspear Road was built in the summer of 1857, the town board having authorized the Commissioner of Highways to build the bridge.

The Assessor, on completing the first assessment roll of the town of Elma for 1857, found as follows: Personal property \$9,400, real \$530,840, total \$540,240. The board of Supervisors on equalizing, reduced the Assessors' valuation \$56,477, made of personal property \$9,400, real \$474,363, total \$483,763 on which they assessed a tax of \$4,290.98; of this amount the town audits were \$335.94 and for roads and bridges \$861.47.

For assessment of personal and real property, town audits, road and bridge expenses and taxes from 1857 to 1900, see chapter XXI.

The first general election in the town of Elma was held November 3d, 1857, in Wm. Standart's house on the north side of his mill-yard, the same house that George and Washington Standart built in 1848. The people in the town did not take a great interest in the election, the total vote being 164. James Clark moved from Missouri coming to Elma Village December 15th, 1857.

C. W. Hurd had the hotel on the northeast corner of Lot 60 enclosed that fall and was ready for occupancy in the spring of 1858. This hotel was named the Elma Centre House and by that name known for many years. It is now owned by Mr. Nosbisch. The hotel was more than a mile north from the centre of the town, the actual centre being about sixteen rods north of the Rice and two rods west of the centre of the Bowen Road.

#### 1858.

James Head bought and moved on to Lot 89, on the west side of the Davis Road in the Spring of 1858. Peter Grader, Sr., moved on to Lot 45 on the south side of the Rice Road, February 9th, 1858.

The second town meeting in Elma was held at Hurd's hotel, Alonzo Crawford, leese; at the corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads on March 2d, 1858. Party politics had no place, the same issue prevailed as the year before, viz.: "New town or no new town," still being the leading question, but the feeling of opposition was gradually growing less. Still enough of that sentiment remained to make the meeting very interesting, and at times exciting, but the day closed without any serious quarrel.

For town officers who were elected, see Chapter XXI.

Samuel Pound's steam sawmill on Lot 90 on the Bullis Road burned this year.

The Town Board on March 3d, voted \$450 to finish the Winspear bridge. The Hemstreet bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek at East Elma, built in 1846, broke down in June, 1858, under a load of lumber, with Christopher Peek on the load; team and all going into the millpond. Mr. Peek sustained only slight bruises, and the horses were released from the wagon without cutting or breaking the harness, when they swam ashore, the water being six feet deep. No other injury to man, horses or wagon occurred.

The Hemstreet lattice bridge (standing in 1900) was built in the summer of 1858; the Town Board directing the Commissioner, July 7th, to build the bridge. Little and Bowen had the contract.

to build a bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek at their mill, three-quarters of a mile below Elma Village, the contract price of which was \$220.00.

George Leger sold his steam saw and gristmill in Spring Brook to Peter Bower in 1858.

James Clark bought the goods of the J. B. Briggs & Co. store in Elma Village in April 1858 renting the store of Warren Jackman; Clark's family living in the back part of the building.

Russel Howard sold his interest in the steam shinglemill at East Elma to Fowler Munger, and Munger and Crane carried on the shingle business there for many years and worked up a great amount of timber.

In the summer of 1858, Clark W. Hurd built a store and dwelling house combined on the northwest corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads; occupied a few years later by W. W. Standart as store and saloon.

Henry W. Stitz bought a building lot next, west of the store on the north side of the Bullis Road, and on the lot built a house and blacksmith shop and carried on business for several years.

Theodore Noyes died July 27th, 1858, age sixty-one years, nine months and was buried in Elma cemetery.

Rev. Lucius A. Chapin was sent by the M. E. Conference to supply Lancaster, Bowmansville and Elma, he living in Lancaster Village preaching in the schoolhouse in Elma Village every other Sunday at 2 p. m., alternating with Rev. William Waith, the Presbyterian minister, who also lived in Lancaster.

Lewis Northrup, in the summer of 1858, tore down the sawmill on the south side of the Cazenove Creek at Spring Brook and on the same place built a gristmill, owned in 1900 by his son, Eli B. Northrup.

Mr. Jacob Wooster, of Strykersville, then considered one of the best millwrights in the country, made and put in the mill machinery. Mr. Harvey assisted in putting in the machinery for making flour and was the first miller working for Mr. Northrup. He remained with Mr. Northrup about four years.

Hurd & Briggs put an addition on the west end of their sawmill for a gristmill and put in a run of stone for grinding feed.

Stephen Markham moved from Brewerton, Onondaga County, New York to Elma in October 1858, and bought the Hurd sawmill and lot on Pond Brook, with eight acres of land on the north part of Lot 59 and east side of the Bowen Road, later owned by Joseph C. Standart.

The second general election was held in Hurd's tavern, on the Bullis Road, on November 2d, 1858. Greater interest was mani-

fested at this election as more state and county officers were to be elected. There were there hundred and fifty-one votes polled.

Israel P. Bowen and Henry Meeker sold the Spring Brook tannery November 19, 1858 to Walter L. Curtis and Frederick Deming. They carried on the store and tannery until the tannery burned in 1861.

## CHAPTER XII.

### TOWN OF ELMA—1859-1865.

Mrs. George Standart, Sr. died January 11th, 1859, age sixty-one years, nine months—burial in Elma cemetery.

The third town meeting was held at the Elma Centre House, March 1st, 1859. The opposition to the forming of the new town grows less each year, as the people in the different parts of the town become better acquainted with each other, and the leaders in the political parties begin to show their hands and work for the nomination for town officers.

Since the town was organized, the candidates on the "Peoples' Ticket" had always been part Republican and part Democratic while the Republicans claim a majority of the voters in the town.

Jacob Jerge bought of Adam Michaelis the house and lot in Elma Village across the road from Charles A. Dutton's house and Jerge moved into the house on March 16th, 1859 and continued blacksmithing in the shop which he bought of Dutton on the east bank of the millrace; Louis Becker working in the shop for Jerge as wagon maker.

Conrad P. Hensel moved into Blossom Village this year. Marcus A. Howard and family moved from Aurora Village into the south part of Mrs. Julia F. Clark's house in April 1859, and lived there that summer while Howard was building a house on a lot he had bought of Clark W. Hurd on the west side of the Bowen Road, nearly opposite Wm. Standart's brick house. Howard had the house so far completed that he moved into it in December of that year. The deed from C. W. Hurd to Marcus A. Howard, dated April 16th, 1866, is recorded in Liber 253, Page 370.

The Bullis Lattice Bridge over the Big Buffalo Creek was built in the summer of 1859. The Bullis sawmill and dam were located about 25 rods below the bridge and it was supposed that these and the millpond would always be there. The water in the pond at the bridge was six feet deep and as wood under water would never decay, it was thought to be economy in building the abutments to use timber below the water line. Accordingly, pine logs were built into cribs as a foundation for the stone walls which were to support the bridge. This worked all right so long as the pond remained but years later when the dam went out and the mill went to decay



and neither to ever be rebuilt, the timber of the cribs decayed. In order to save the bridge, new abutments of stone from the creek bottom had to be built.

Mr. Bullis having bought ten acres of land at the southeast corner of lot 29 on the north side of the Bullis Road, in 1859 built a house and horsebarn thereon. The house when finished was, by far, the finest house in the Town of Elma, and in 1900 there are very few houses, if indeed there is one, in the town that exceeds this Bullis house in fine interior and exterior finish, decoration and ornamentation. When completed, it was said to have cost \$12,000, and in this house Mr. Bullis spent the closing years of his life. He died in 1869.

John Pomerink's little girl was burned so she died—dress caught fire from a burning brush heap.

Killing frost on morning of June 4th, ice one-third inch thick, and on mornings of July 3d and 4th killing frosts; grass frozen stiff July 4th at 7 p. m. These freezes destroyed all fruit, killed the grass, wheat, rye, corn and potatoes and farmers were greatly discouraged; they cut their grass and standing grain to save what they could for fodder for their stock.

John Morris died at Spring Brook in 1859, age seventy-three years, burial in Spring Brook cemetery.

The M. E. Church in Elma Village was built this year. As before stated, the business of the country was in a very low condition; money was very scarce and it was difficult to make a sale of wood or lumber for cash. Pay out of the store or a sale on time and at low price was the rule and it seemed to be a bad time in which to try to build a church, but the schoolhouse was too small to hold the people who wished to attend the meetings.

At a meeting of those interested in building a church in the Village and on the lot offered by Joseph B. Briggs; George Townsend, Henry D. Wilbor, and Warren Jackman were appointed a committee to get up a plan for a church to be presented at another meeting. At the next meeting, the committee presented their plan which was accepted and they were directed to ascertain if sufficient means could be raised to complete the building. The plan presented was for each person to furnish timber, lumber, stone, labor, teamwork, and cordwood, as they had of these materials, and as they could. An account was to be kept of the amount each one furnished, at the market price, and also, of the actual cost of the labor and materials used in the building. The slips were to be appraised by the trustees at a price sufficient to cover the entire cost when the building was finished and furnished; and at those prices as a start, the slips were to be sold at auction. If the person buying a slip had not fur-

nished enough to pay for the same he was to give his note for the balance. If he had furnished more than the price of his slip, he was to take his balance in these notes. So no money was to be called for, nor was there any subscription to be made, only the word given to furnish what they could when called on.

Nearly every person owning land in the vicinity was pleased with the plan, and they readily agreed to furnish such material as they had. The committee reported the result of their visits and it was decided to go on with the building. The committee was directed to make out a bill of all materials needed in the structure. Warren Jackman was chosen by the trustees to take general charge of the building, arrange for the labor and material, and keep the accounts. The bill for timber and lumber was taken to each person and he selected what and how much he would furnish. The superintendent then knew on whom and for what material to call.

Some of the lumber, the hardware, paint, and many other articles and pay for some of the labor could only be obtained in Buffalo, therefore arrangements were made with Pratt & Co, and Parmelee & Hadley for hardware and paint, with Howard & Whitcomb, and Holbrook & Dee, for dry goods; with H. Hager and Hart & Newman, for groceries; with George Marsh for flour and feed; with Jewett & Root for stoves; with George A. Prince for a melodeon; with Jeremiah Staats for lumber, chairs and sofa; with the Buffalo Stained Glass Co. for the windows: all to be paid for in lumber and wood. The labor not to apply on a slip was paid by orders drawn on stores in Buffalo or in wood or lumber if wanted. The first stick of timber, a long sill, was delivered by Hiram Kinney at 10 o'clock a. m., July 7th.. The Elma people who had wood or lumber to turn in would take it to one of the stores in Buffalo and deliver where directed, taking a receipt for the price of the load. And so the whole business was done by exchange of material, and when the building was completed and furnished with carpets, lamps, seats, chairs, stoves, sofa and melodeon, at a cost of \$3,400, it was all paid for and was dedicated February 9th, 1860, by Rev. Gleazen Fillmore.

Mr Joseph B. Briggs donated the lot on which the church was built.

The M. E. Conference sent Rev. S. H. Baker to preach in Elma Village, he to reside in Lancaster. As he could be in Elma only on every other Sunday at 2 o'clock, p. m., the M. E. Society, after their church was built invited the Presbyterian Society, with Rev. William Waith as their pastor, to occupy the church every alternate Sunday afternoon, which offer was accepted and continued for two or three years.

Erastus J. Markham came from Brewerton, Onondaga County, to Elma in October, 1859, and moved into the house on the east side of the Bowen Road on Lot 59, being the house owned and occupied in 1900, by Mrs. Hannah Price. Markham taught the Elma Village school that winter.

The third general election was held in the Elma Centre House on November 8th, 1859. It being an off year, not much interest was taken, there being only two hundred and fifty-seven votes polled.

#### 1860.

At the town meeting held March 6th, 1860, the Republican and Democratic parties, for the first time since the town was organized had straight party tickets.

Paul B. Lathrop and Zina A. Hemstreet were candidates for the office of Supervisor of the Republican and Democratic parties respectively.

While the Republicans claimed the town, a split in the party in the south part of the town, caused by what Mr. Lathrop had or had not done at the session of the Board of Supervisors in 1859, was the cause of his defeat and a large part of the Democratic ticket was elected.

Julius P. Wilder put into the J. B. Briggs & Co's. steam mill building the machinery to cut shingles, giving employment to ten men and boys.

Jacob Jerge, on March 24th, 1860, bought of Charles A. Dutton, the house and lot on the west side of the Bowen Road in Elma Village, next north of Wm. H. Bancroft's place.

Erastus I. Markham, on April 10th, 1860, bought of James Clark, his interest in the store and that day moved into the back part of the building.

Mr. Clark moved into the house on the east side of the road next north of the Creek.

Dr. Carey W. Howe with his newly married wife moved into the south wing of W. Jackman's house about May 1st, 1860.

Mrs. James Davis died May 17th, 1860, age fifty-one years—burial in Davis cemetery on Lot 36 of Mile Strip.

June 14th, 1860, Erastus J. Markham bought the vacant lot on the west side of the road between Elon Clark and Jacob Jerge.

Wallace Tiffany and Lawrence Dimert this summer operated the sawmill which was built by George Standart, Sr. about 1855 on the south side of the Big Buffalo Creek near the northwest corner of Lot 74, and across the Creek from the Bowen & Little sawmill.

Joseph C. Standart was appointed Postmaster of the Elma Post-office in June, 1860, by President James Buchanan, and the office was moved to the Elma Centre House with Silas Green who kept the tavern, as deputy; Green having charge of the office. The moving of the office from Elma Village three quarters of a mile to the Bullis Road, caused much dissatisfaction among a very large majority of the patrons of the office.

During the summer, Hurd & Briggs put another run of stones and other machinery for making flour, into their gristmill building at the west end of their sawmill. George Townsend did the millwright work and acted as miller until he enlisted into the 116th Regiment of N. Y. S. Volunteers in August, 1862.

The Peter Bower steam saw and gristmill in Spring Brook burned in the summer of 1860.

James M. Simons moved out of the Mouse Nest tavern at Spring Brook on August 25th, 1860, having rented the place to W. Wesley Standart, who moved in on the same day.

Thomas D. Tiffany who lived on Lot 64, on the north side of the Bullis Road, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn in September 1860.

Charles Reichert bought the store of the Ebenezer Society in Blossom and had the Postoffice. The Village and Postoffice while the Ebenezers occupied the place went by the name of Upper Ebenezer.

The United States census reports gave the population of the Town of Elma in 1860 at 2,136, and for the Town of Marilla, same year at 1,506.

As Marilla had been under settlement about thirty years, while Elma, except the Mile Strip part, had been under settlement about fifteen years, this difference in population shows what a rush was made to gain a place on the last purchase of the Buffalo Creek Reservation. The great variety and excellent quality of the timber and the fertility of the soil, all of which being well watered, made it desirable for the farmers.

The Presidential campaign of 1860 was one of great interest and excitement throughout the whole country and the Town of Elma had its full share. It was conceded that the election was to be the most important in the history of the country to that time.

The great question was as to the further extension of slavery. The Republican party had taken the stand that slavery should not go into the new states and territories but should remain undisturbed in the States where it then existed. The Abolition and Free Soil parties joined with the Republicans in this campaign. Abraham Lincoln was the Republican candidate for President.



The Democrats were divided; a part declaring for the Squatter Sovereignty idea, which was, that in the settlement of the territories, the north and the south were to have an equal chance; each to have the privilege to take their property, slave or other, into the territory and when the time came to apply for admission as a State, the constitution that should be adopted by a majority of the people residing there at the time, slave or free, should be the constitution under which the state should be admitted. Stephen A. Douglass was their candidate.

The leaders in the slave states declared that they had the right under the constitution of the United States to take their slaves and hold them as such wherever the United States flag floated and that the territories being common property they had the right to settle in the territories with their slaves and other property, and, when there, that no power could deprive them of the privilege of remaining and have their property protected when the territory became a state. This would make every territory sure to be admitted as a slave state. John C. Breckenridge was their candidate for President.

The great battle of the campaign in Erie County and generally throughout the northern states, was between the Republicans and the Douglass Democrats, very few votes being polled for Breckenridge or Bell.

In the Town of Elma there were two hundred and fifty-two votes polled for Lincoln, and one hundred and eighty-eight for Douglass: total four hundred and forty, giving Lincoln sixty-four majority. In the Electoral College, of three hundred and three votes, Lincoln had one hundred and eighty; a majority over all others of fifty-seven. The leaders in the South were very much dissatisfied with the result and immediately began to carry out their threat of dissolution of the Union and before the close of the year, South Carolina had passed an ordinance of secession, and other southern states were preparing to follow that example. Their reason was that fourteen of the states had failed to observe their constitutional obligations. This was the political condition at the close of 1860.

#### FEBRUARY 7th, 1861.—THE COLDEST DAY.

In January of this year, Austin Twichell was appointed Postmaster of the Springbrook Postoffice by President Buchanan and the office was moved from McFees grocery to what is known as the Leger place.



In Elma Village on Thursday morning, February 7th, the thermometer registered 20° above zero, snowing, high west wind; at 9 p. m. thermometer 11° below zero. Friday morning at daylight, 30° below zero, at sunrise 25° below, at 9 a. m. 18° below, clear and still, snow badly drifted. This was the coldest day of any record of Elma weather.

March 4th, 1861, Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as President of the United States. Several of the southern states had passed ordinances of secession and on February 18th, 1861, they adopted a constitution as "The Confederate States of America," and elected Jefferson Davis as their President with Alexander Stephens as Vice-president.

The Elma town meeting was held on March 5th at Spring Brook, in the Mouse Nest tavern.

For officers elected see Chapter XXI.

The Northrup bridge across the Cazenove Creek below the mills went out with the spring freshet.

Washington Standart died March 24th, 1861, aged thirty-seven years, three months—burial in the Elma Village cemetery.

On March 28, the Commissioners of Highways of the town, changed the road at Northrup mills from a point on the east of side the sawmill yard, on the north side of the creek so as to cross the millpond about fifteen rods above the mills and where the road and bridge have been located since that date. A new lattice bridge was built there in the summer of 1861.

Zebina Lee died at Spring Brook April 4th, 1861,—burial in the Spring Brook cemetery.

April 12th, 1861, at 4.30 o'clock a. m., the War of the Rebellion was commenced by the rebel batteries commanded by General Beauregard near Fort Sumter, opening fire on that fort, which was held by Major Robert Anderson and the eighty men which composed the garrison. The fort was surrendered April 14th, the United States soldiers marching out with the honors of war. The news was a surprise to the people of the North and it meant that civil war was a reality. It greatly united the people of the North.

The next day, April 15th, President Lincoln called an extra session of Congress to meet July 4th, and at the same time issued his proclamation calling for 75,000 militia to serve three months to protect the capital and to secure the property of the government.

President Davis met this with a call for 100,000 men.

May 3d, President Lincoln called for 64,000 volunteers.

Deforest Standart enlisted in the 21st Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers May 20th, 1861.

East Elma Postoffice established with Fowler Munger as Postmaster in the summer of 1861. He had the office in his house in the millyard.

In June, 1861, James H. Ward was appointed Postmaster for Spring Brook and moved the Postoffice from Twichell's grocery at Leger place to his (Ward's) Justice's office.

Warren Jackman was appointed Postmaster at Elma in June and on July 1st moved the office from the tavern at the corner of Bowen and Bullis Roads, into E. J. Markham's store with Markham as deputy Postmaster.

Rev. James McClellan was sent by the M. E. Conference to preach at Lancaster, Bowmansville and Elma, the meeting at Elma to be held at 2 p. m.

George Leger built a steam sawmill on Pond Brook on the north side of the Rice Road on Lot 44 in the summer of 1861.

The tannery at Spring Brook, owned and operated by Curtis & Deming, was burned in the fall of 1861; they continued their store a few months and closed out.

#### **GREAT FLOOD IN BIG BUFFALO CREEK.**

E. J. Markham built a barn on his lot on the west side of the road in Elma Village in the fall of 1861. He had the foundation wall nearly completed when on September 26th, a heavy rain commenced which continued on the 27th and forenoon of 28th. This caused high water in all the streams and along the upper part of the Big Buffalo Creek the small dams gave out, and the increase of water caused thereby would take out the next, and the next and, so, gaining in volume and strength, everything was swept before the raging torrent. On the Big Buffalo Creek, thirteen milldams were swept away, and several mills were carried off, among them the Hemstreet and Bullis sawmills. Part of the Bullis mill drifted on to Eleazer Bancroft's flats. At East Elma, the water was one to four feet deep from the bank at the schoolhouse to the creek, the current taking sawlogs two feet in diameter from the yard of the steam shinglemill and taking them into the creek; the whole flats forming a lake. Many bridges were carried away; the Simanton bridge on the Girdled Road, and the Standart bridge three-fourths mile below Elma Village being two of the large bridges in this town to go. This was on Saturday, September 28th, 1861, and that day will long be remembered, as the flats of the Creek for many miles in length of the stream, was a broad river with rapid current in which could be seen the ruins of buildings and fences, with lumber, sawlogs, trees, shocks of corn; every thing in that

line within the reach of the water was carried away. In Elma Village, from Hurd & Briggs mills to the creek, the water was three to five feet deep. This was the greatest and worst flood causing the greatest loss of property of any ever known on the Big Buffalo Creek.

The Bullis and Hemstreet sawmills and dams which were carried away by the freshet of September 28th, 1861, were immediately rebuilt, the mills being ready for business in the early part of 1862.

The German Evangelical Society was organized in Blossom in 1861, they having bought the building which the Ebenezer Society had built for a church.

John Garby enlisted in Wiederick's Battery in October 1861, and Fred Michaelis enlisted in same battery in November.

At the general election held on November 5th, 1861, there were two hundred and ninety-one votes polled.

#### 1862.

Jacob Jerge, on January 29th, 1862, sold the house and lot on the east side of the street in Elma Village next south of the church lot, to his brother Casper, and Jacob and Casper worked together as blacksmiths.

On April 1st, W. Wesley Standart moved from the Mouse Nest tavern in Spring Brook and he took his father's farm for one year. Nicholas Allender moved into the tavern.

George Standart, Sr., died April 15th, 1862, age seventy-two years—burial in Elma cemetery.

James H. Ward, on May 1st, 1862, bought of Calvin Rogers, one and one-fourth acres of land, part of Lot 84, on the south west side of the Plank Road in Spring Brook.

Hugh Mullen on May 1st, 1862, moved on to the west part of Lot 2 north from East Elma. In the summer of 1862, Horace Kyser built a steam sawmill in Spring Brook on the ground where the Peter Bower steam mill was burned in 1860.

During the summer and fall of 1862, many young and middle-aged men enlisted from this town. The dates of their enlistment cannot now be learned, but the names so far as could be obtained, will be found in Chapter XIII, with the arm of the service into which they entered.

August Brunner, who had worked for the Ebenezer Society, was murdered this year at or near the sawmill in Blossom, and his body was thrown into the millpond. No trace of the murderer was ever obtained.

The 116th Regiment, N. Y. S. Volunteers left Buffalo for the front on September 3d, 1862. In that regiment were twenty-six men from the town of Elma.

Twenty-four men enlisted from this town into the 94th Regiment and left Buffalo about November 14th. This 94th Regiment was in the Fredericksburg battle, December 13th, 1862. A bounty fund for the enlisted men of \$1,051 was raised by subscriptions.

Norton B. Lougee, who had enlisted in the 49th Regiment, August 26th, 1861, died November 2, 1862, age twenty-eight years, eight months, burial in Elma Village cemetery.

### 1863.

Isaac Gail was appointed Postmaster at East Elma in the fall of 1862. Cornelius McHugh was murdered near Buffalo, January 5th, 1863. He was on his way home from the city and when a little west of the Plank Road House on the Aurora Plank Road, and near the present city line, he was killed. His murderer was not found, but a man by the name of Fogleman, who lived on Lot 70 on the Bullis Road in the Town of Elma, in a short time moved into Canada. It was reported that before he died, he confessed that he murdered Brunner at Blossom, McHugh near Buffalo, and that he burned the saloon at Smalltz corners on the Clinton Street Road. This is only a report.

Frederick Heim bought the west part of Lot 30 on the north side of the Jamison Road and moved on the lot in January 1863.

The East Elma Postoffice was discontinued in the fall of 1863. James Ard died February 7th, 1863, age seventy-five years, buried in Elma cemetery.

Robert W. Lee of Spring Brook, of 49th Regiment died at Point Lookout, Maryland, February 10th, 1863, burial in Spring Brook cemetery.

Erastus J. Markham, on April 25th, 1863, bought of Warren Jackman, the store in Elma Village on the west side of the street and over the millrace.

George Leger, in the spring of 1863, bought and moved into the saloon in Springbrook, many times referred to as the Leger place.

Allen J. Hurd, son of Clark W. Hurd, who enlisted into the 44th Regiment, N. Y. S. Volunteers, called the "Ellsworth Avengers," was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg July 3d, 1863; died in the hospital July 13th, age twenty-one years, five months; burial in Elma Village cemetery.

A special town meeting was held in the summer of 1863, when the town voted to raise \$4,000 by tax, the money to be used as a



bounty fund, to be paid to volunteers for putting down the rebellion.

Stephen Northrup sold the goods in the store at the southwest corner of the Northrup and Plank Roads in Spring Brook to John P. Warner, in September 1863. Northrup moved on to the Lyman Parker farm on the Rice Road.

Cyrus Hurd, on November 4th, 1863, bought of Tiffany and Dimert the sawmill on Lot 74, on the south side of the Big Buffalo Creek. He also bought the sawmill which was built by Standart and Bowen on the north side of the Creek in 1849. Hurd operated both mills as long as they could be used when they were taken down, the dam having been carried off by a freshet.

Jacob Heim bought and moved on Lot 34 on the north side of the Jamison Road, in the fall of 1863.

#### 1864.

Abraham Sharick and son rented the Northrup gristmill in Spring Brook for the year 1864.

O. J. Wannemacher, on February 25th, bought of Lewis Northrup, twenty acres from the south side of Lot 71, also one acre from the northwest corner of Lot 67 on the northeast side of the Plank Road, he moving into the town on May 1st, 1864.

John Barnett sold to Timothy Clifford his house, blacksmith shop, and lots in Spring Brook, being parts of Lots 75 and 84; deed dated April 1st, 1864.

Charles Frobes, on June 24th, bought the west half of Lot 45, on south side of Rice Road. Charles and John Raloff, this year, bought land near what is later Jamison Station.

A Catholic schoolhouse was built on the southeast corner of the Clinton Street and Girdled Roads in the summer of 1864 under the supervision of Rev. A. Feldman, of Lancaster. School has since been kept there as a branch of the Lancaster parochial school. George Leger, this year, sold his steam sawmill on Pond Brook to Christopher Peek.

Fred Heitman, in the summer of 1864, bought and moved on to the centre part of Lot 45, the house on the Woodard Road which was known as "Ebenezer Prison House."

W. Wesley Standart, September 7th, 1864, bought of Clark W. Hurd the store and four and one-fourth acres of land at the northwest corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads; moved in and opened a store January 1st, 1865.

Deforest Standart, who enlisted in the 21st Regiment, died of yellow fever in Little Washington, North Carolina, October 10th, 1864.



George Townsend, color bearer of 116th Regiment, died October 19th, 1864, in Saturlee Hospital, Philadelphia, from wounds received at Cedar Creek, age thirty-seven years; burial in Elma cemetery.

The Presidential campaign of 1864 was a hard-fought battle among the leaders of both parties. The Republican platform declaring for a prosecution of the war and against a dissolution of the Union; the Democratic platform declared the war a failure and advised to recognize the Southern Confederacy and withdraw the northern army from the seceded states.

This town gave a good majority for the Republican candidates, Lincoln and Johnson. The Electoral College gave Lincoln 233 votes and to George B. McClelland twenty-one votes. Lincoln's popular vote was 2,216,057, McClelland's 1,811,714. Enlistment into the army continued.

#### 1865.

Mr. James Davis, who moved on to the north part of Lot 35 of the Mile Strip, one and one-half miles southwest from Spring Brook in 1831, died January 29th, 1865; age sixty-five years; burial in Davis cemetery on Lot 36 of Mile Strip.

Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated the second term on March 4th, 1865.—Andrew Johnson Vice-President.

Sophia, wife of Elisha Cotton, died March 31st, 1865; burial in Elma Village cemetery.

The surrender of the Confederate Northern Army of Virginia by General R. E. Lee to General U. S. Grant on April 9th, 1865; the shooting of Abraham Lincoln, by J. Wilkes Booth on April 14th, 1865; the attempted assassination of William H. Seward, Secretary of State the same night; the death of President Lincoln on April 15th, 1865; the inauguration of Andrew Johnson as President on April 15th, 1865; the surrender of the Confederate Army of North Carolina by General Johnston, April, 26th, 1865, which effected the collapse of the Southern Confederacy and virtually closed the war of the Rebellion, has made the month of April 1865, a most important month in the history of our country; the incidents having been written in detail by writers of the history of the Rebellion and in the biographies of the great men of the nation of that date. Further mention as to the part the town of Elma took will be made in Chapter XIII.

Maple trees were set on the south side and in front of the M. E. Church building in Elma Village in April, 1865.

Henry E. Bancroft bought thirty-three acres of Lot 64 on the north side of the Bullis Road in the spring of 1865.

George H. Bristol bought of Curtis & Deming, the tannery, store, and lot in Spring Brook, July 31st, 1865 and made extensive repairs in the store building.

Christian Fath committed suicide July, 1865, by lying down where a tree had been turned out by the wind, the body of the tree had been cut off leaving the stump and turned up root so balanced that after lying down he pulled the roots back completely burying himself, except one foot stuck out a very little. Family trouble was the cause.

W. Wesley Standart was appointed Postmaster of the Elma Postoffice under President Johnson, and September 1st, 1865, he moved the office from Elma Village into his store on the northwest corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads, where he kept the office until July 1st, 1869.

After 1860, there was a rush of buyers of land into the Town of Elma and the unoccupied timber lands were bought and many families moved on to that part of the town, comprising the Aurora part of the town, west of the Big Buffalo Creek on the east and the Bowen Road on the west, and between the Rice Road on the north and the north line of the Mile Strip. The State census taken in 1865 shows: White males, 1502, white females, 1399; colored males, 4, colored females, 2. Total males, 1506; total females, 1401. Total population, 2907. Increase of population in five years 771, being over 36%. There were of single persons 1727, married 1098, widows 51, widowers 31; making 575 families,—415 owners of land, 123 over 21 could not read nor write, 276 native voters, 273 naturalized voters; total of voters 549. There were 333 aliens residing in the town in 1865. These new-comers were workers and the changed condition in the general appearance of the town in a few years was that of the forest being made into cleared farms, with houses, barns, orchards and well fenced fields, showing prosperity.

William Miller, Sr., bought of John W. Hamlin ten acres of Lot 24 on the east side of the Girdled Road, September 11th, 1865.

William Morris, who lived across the road from the tavern in Spring Brook, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor, November 1st, 1865; age 46 years; burial in the Spring Brook cemetery. No doubt, it was a case of insanity, as he had been in the Utica Asylum for the insane two or three times, but was at his home at this time.

Elisha Cotton died December 6th, 1865; age eighty years, eight months; burial in Elma Village cemetery.

The United States Public debt December 31st, 1865 was \$2,716,-898,152. In 1860, the public debt was a little less than \$65,000,000.

The State of New York furnished under all the calls 464,156 men who entered the United States army to save the Union from being broken up by the Southern Secessionists.

The Town of Elma put into the field one hundred and twenty-six men as a part of the State Volunteers. (See Chapter XIII).

## CHAPTER XIII.

1860 to 1865.

### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 1860.

The Presidential Election in November 1860, generally conceded to be the most important election since the formation of the government, resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln for President, Hannibal Hamlin for Vice-President, and Elbridge G. Spaulding to represent this Congressional District in the House of Representatives. While there were four separate political organizations, each with a full set of candidates on their tickets, in Erie County and in the town of Elma especially, the great battle was fought between the Republican and Democratic parties, with Lincoln and Douglas as the leading candidates. Very few votes were cast for Breckenridge and Bell, the other Presidential candidates. The whole campaign had been carried on by the Republican and Democratic parties with great earnestness and with a determination to succeed by each party. Stephen A. Douglas had addressed large mass-meetings in all the large cities of the north and in several southern cities.

In every town and hamlet, pole-raising mass-meetings, and political gatherings, by both parties were held at which Wide Awake Clubs with torches, and banners attended, marching from town to town and by their cheers and songs made the campaign one of great excitement and interest. The Wide Awake clubs with torches and banners took well with the young men and caused a large accession to the Republican vote.

At the Presidential Election, November 5th, 1860, the total vote in the town of Elma was 440 and a Republican majority of 64.

In the whole United States the vote for Lincoln was	1,857,610
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Douglas	1,365,976
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Breckenridge	847,951
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Bell	590,631

Total.....	4,662,168
In the Electoral College Lincoln had.....	180 votes.
“ “ “ “ Breckenridge had.....	72 “

In the Electoral College	Bell had	39 votes.
" " "	" Douglass had	12 "
Total.....		303

The Douglass and Breckenridge vote combined exceeded Lincoln's by 356,317. The Douglas and Bell vote combined exceeded Lincoln's by 98,997, and the whole popular vote gave a majority against him of 946,948, but in the Electoral College he had three-fifths of the votes, having a majority in that college of 57.

The result of this election was not satisfactory to the South and the threats that for years, had been made by southern fanatics, of a dissolution of the Union, were now made with such force and determination as to carry conviction that this time they really meant something more than brag and bluster. The southern leaders declared that there would be a dissolution of the Union, but that there would be no war, for they said, "A large part of the North was in sympathy with them, and would never allow the Republican party to hold power by force of arms or to make war and upon the South; that such a move would cause a war in the North, the Republicans would have all they could attend to at home." The southern leaders knew that the excitement attending the campaign at the North had not entirely subsided and, without doubt, their northern friends had informed them that there were thousands at the North, who were willing and even desirous that a party which was coming into power on, what they termed, sectional issues and in face of the warnings from the South should be hampered and if needs be, destroyed, for in the destruction of the Republican party lay the only hope of the Democratic party to again get control of the government which they had held most of the time for more than thirty years.

To carry out the threat of the South, the Legislature of South Carolina on November 10th, 1860, five days after the election, ordered a State Convention, which met on December 17th, and on December 20th, the Convention by unanimous vote declared, "that the union now existing between South Carolina and other states under the name of the United States is hereby dissolved" and gave as a reason that fourteen states had for years failed to fulfill their constitutional obligations.

The larger number of the members of President Buchanan's cabinet were from the South, and after South Carolina had adopted the secession ordinance, Mr. Buchanan declared that if a state had withdrawn, or attempted to withdraw from the Union, "that there was no power in the Constitution to prevent the act."

A few days later, Commissioners from South Carolina called on the President and demanded the surrender of all public property



by the President to the seceded state and to negotiate for a continuance of peace and amity between that commonwealth and the government at Washington.

Buchanan replied that, "he had no power and could only refer the matter to Congress" and he declined to accede to their demand to have the U. S. troops removed from Charleston harbor.

John B. Floyd of Virginia, Buchanan's Secretary of War, had transferred vast quantities of arms and ammunition from the North to southern arsenals and had sent to the South and to distant parts of the country the regular army, consisting then of 16,402 officers and men; only 5,000 officers and men of the army remaining in the north. The ships of the navy being in the South or absent at foreign stations, everything had been arranged to give to the South every possible advantage at the start. Major Robert Anderson in command of Fort Moultrie in Charleston harbor, with a force of eighty men, seeing that he could not resist an attack of land forces against the fort, withdrew on the night of December 28th and took possession of Fort Sumter, a much stronger position on a near-by island.

1861.

Secretary of War Floyd, after moving the army, arms and ammunition from the north; after abstracting \$870,000 of Government Bonds, resigned his place in the cabinet because, as he said, the President had broken his promise, that no move should be made in Charleston harbor while negotiations were pending for the adjustment of the difficulties, and because the President refused to withdraw the troops from Charleston.

South Carolina seized the United States Custom House, Post Office and Arsenal; took possession of Forts Pinkney and Moultrie and declared that the act of Major Anderson had inaugurated hostilities.

General Lewis Cass of Michigan, Buchanan's Secretary of State, resigned because the President refused to order reinforcements to Charleston harbor and Joseph Holt of Kentucky, Post-Master General, was appointed Secretary of State. A letter written to the Governor of South Carolina, dated January 5th, 1861, declared by order of the President "that the forts in that state, in common with all other forts, arsenals and property of the United States, are in charge of the President, and that if assaulted, no matter from what quarter, or under what pretext, it is his duty to protect them by all the means which the law has placed at his disposal;" adding, "that it was not his present purpose to garrison the forts, as he considered them entirely safe

under the protection of the law-abiding sentiment for which the people of South Carolina had ever been distinguished, but, should they be attacked, or menaced with danger of being seized, or taken from the possession of the United States, he could not escape his constitutional obligation to defend them." This was the condition at the beginning of 1861.

The Secession Act of South Carolina was followed by other Southern States, with acts similarly worded, as follows: By Mississippi, January 8th; by Florida, January 10th; by Alabama, January 11th; by Georgia, January 19th; by Louisiana, January 26th; by Texas, February 1st; by Virginia, April 25th; by Arkansas, May 6th; by North Carolina, May 20th and by Tennessee, June 8th. The avowed reasons for this course on the part of the states named, were the refusal of fifteen of the states to fulfill their constitutional obligations, and the election of a man to the high office of President of the United States whose opinions and purposes are hostile to slavery. These declarations show unmistakably that it was the fixed purpose of the political leaders in the south to foster and perpetuate the institution of slavery in the United States and to make that the leading issue on all questions of national interest or importance.

On February 4th, 1861, delegates from the Northern States met as a "Peace Congress" in Philadelphia, to devise ways and means to preserve the Union; but the meeting was not a success for the same day, February 4th, delegates from the states that had at that date seceded met at Montgomery, Alabama, to form a Southern Confederacy. This Congress on the February 18th, adopted a Constitution with the title, "Confederate States of America;" elected and inaugurated Jefferson Davis of Mississippi as President and Alexander H. Stephens of Alabama as Vice-president.

President-elect Lincoln was then on his way from his home in Springfield, Illinois, to Washington. While at Harrisburg, rumors were being circulated that he would never reach Washington, for bridges were to be burned and tracks torn up. Here he was taken in the charge of a few picked friends and the leading railroad officials and early in the evening of February 23d, he took a special train for Washington. At Philadelphia, he was transferred to the Baltimore Railroad, reaching Baltimore at 3.30 o'clock a. m., February 24th; passed unnoticed and was safe in Washington at 6 o'clock. His family followed by another train.

The closing hours of President Buchanan's administration were dark and gloomy enough for all friends of the Union. The South had made great preparations for war, having seized forts,

arsenals, ships, munitions of war, the United States mint at New Orleans with \$500,000, and every kind of public property they could secure to aid the cause of the seceded states. Nearly all of the members of Congress from these states had resigned and had left Washington and went with their seceding States. The United States Treasury was bankrupt, there not being sufficient money to pay off the members of Congress and as a last resort, before adjourning, congress authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to make a loan sufficient to pay the members. The money was obtained in New York by paying 12% premium for the same. This showed that the public doubted the ability of the United States to fulfill its pledges; the exorbitant rate of interest charged clearly demonstrating that the credit of the Government was in a very precarious condition.

President Lincoln took the Executive Chair on Monday, March 4th, 1861. In his inaugural address he said that "he should take care that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the states," adding, "I trust this will not be regarded as a menace. I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it exists. I believe I have no right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. There need be no blood-shed nor violence, and there shall be none unless it be forced upon the national authorities. In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine is the momentous issue of civil war. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors."

The Confederates took this as a declaration of war and they hastened their preparations; but it greatly united the people of the North.

Major Anderson had been shut up in Fort Sumter fifteen weeks by the rebels when, on April 12th, 1861, at 4.30 o'clock a. m., the rebel batteries under command of General Beauregard opened fire on Fort Sumter. Major Anderson and his eighty men held the fort for two days, when on April 14th, he surrendered; the garrison marching out with the honors of war. This was the beginning of the Civil War.

The news filled the North with consternation and convinced the world that civil war was really inaugurated in the United States. This act united the North and with the exception of a few extreme pro-slavery men, the whole people echoed the words of General Jackson, "The Union must and shall be preserved."

On April 15th, President Lincoln called an extra session of Congress to meet on July 4th, and at the same time issued his proclamation calling for 75,000 militia, "to serve three months,

to protect the capital, and secure the property of the Government."

The response to this call was instantaneous. Massachusetts with her Sixth Regiment was the first in the field, and was attacked while going through Baltimore on April 19th, two men being killed and eight wounded.

President Davis met Lincoln's call for 75,000 with a call for 100,000, and made no secret of his design to capture Washington and invade the North. At the same time he called for privateers to destroy the commerce of the United States.

On April 19th, Lincoln proclaimed the blockade of all the seceded states and declared as pirates all privateers who should take commissions from Davis.

This privateering was a threat against the commerce of the North, and New York City being the great commercial centre; the question was, "would she consent that all their great business should be put in jeopardy?" All other northern commercial centres were threatened. History was being rapidly made. On April 20th, the largest meeting ever held on this continent was held in New York City in Union Square. Leading men from all parts of the North, representatives of every kind of business and of every party were there by uncounted thousands and their united cry went up "*Down with the rebellion.*" New York City and the whole North had spoken and although financial bankruptcy stared them in the face, the decision was "to stand or fall with the government."

The result of this meeting was a surprise to the leaders in the South. They had expected sympathy from the North, and such a division among the people as would greatly cripple the North in its attempt to raise a volunteer force and that would practically prevent the North from sending an army to the South.

On May 3d, Lincoln called for 64,000 more volunteers and ordered a large increase in the regular army and navy.

Congress met on July 4th, and on the 11th authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to borrow \$250,000,000. The Senate passed another bill authorizing the raising of 500,000 volunteers and voted \$500,000,000.

The Southern Congress thought this a game of brag and they voted a similar call of men and money.

On July 21st, 1861, the first real battle of the war, the Union forces were badly defeated at the battle of Bull Run, and were driven in a panic back to Washington. The Union loss in killed, wounded and missing, was nearly 2,000 of which 1423 were prisoners. This greatly encouraged the South, and their Northern friends made a great handle of the result, declaring that the South could not be put down but would soon have their armies in every North-



ern State, and the only way for the North to do was to acknowledge secession as a fact and make the best terms they could with the South, for they believed that the South could not be subjugated.

During the balance of 1861 and most of 1862, both sides were getting their armies ready for business. Battles were fought in and near the border states from the Potomac to the Rocky Mountains and in these engagements, the Southern army was in a majority of cases victorious. Lee pushed his army into Maryland and the cry rang through the length and breadth of the North, "You can never conquer the South."

It was at first determined by Lincoln and his cabinet that the work was to put down the rebellion and thus save the Union, and not in any way to interfere with the institution of slavery if it could be avoided; and when the Federal army marched across the Potomac taking possession in Alexandria, of General Lee's place, making his house the headquarters of the commanding general, strict orders were given that no damage should be done to the grounds or buildings, and that the persons and slaves should not be molested.

After a while, where the Northern army had gained an advantage in the Slave States, fugitive slaves would come within their lines. General Butler called them "contraband of war," and they were afterwards called "contrabands;" but it was a question too complicated and of too much importance to be settled in that way.

In the latter part of August, 1861, John C. Freemont, who was in command in Missouri, issued a proclamation declaring martial law in Missouri and that under the decree of confiscation, the slaves were free. President Lincoln directed Freemont to modify his proclamation so far as it referred to slaves, and this was the condition wherever the Union army had success in the Slave States. It soon became known that the Southern Confederacy was taking into its army every able bodied white man, of suitable age, leaving the families and the army to be supported by the slaves. On March 13th, 1862, President Lincoln signed an Act of Congress entitled, "An Act to make an additional article of war," for the government of the army of the United States, and shall be observed and obeyed as such.

Article I. All officers and persons in the military and naval service of the United States are prohibited from employing any of the forces under their respective commands, for the purpose of returning fugitives from service or labor who may have escaped from any person to whom such service or labor is claimed to be due, and any officer who shall be found guilty, by a courtmartial, of violating this article shall be dismissed from the service.



Article II. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Section 9 made all slaves of persons in rebellion against the government of the United States escaping from such persons, and taking refuge within the lines of the army, and all slaves found on or within any place occupied by the rebel forces, and afterwards occupied by the forces of the United States shall be deemed captives of war, and shall be forever free of their servitude, and not again held as slaves.

Section 10. No slaves escaping into any state, territory or District of Columbia from any other state shall be delivered up, unless the person claiming ownership shall make oath that he has not been in arms against the United States in the present rebellion; nor in any way given aid and comfort thereto.

The Executive will in due time recommend that all loyal citizens of the United States shall be compensated for all losses, including the loss of slaves.

So it was that during the first year of the war, no word or act of the government could be construed as an act against the institution of slavery.

On July 1st, 1862, President Lincoln made a call for 300,000 men and again on August 4th, he called for 300,000 volunteers.

Notwithstanding the frequent reverses of the Union army, and the constant efforts of the friends of the South, represented in the North by the Knights of the Golden Circle, and their helpers, to destroy confidence in the government, and to prevent enlistments; in the face of all this opposition, the loyal part of the North redoubled their efforts, and the response from the North to the call for soldiers was without a parallel in the history of the world.

On September 22d, 1862, President Lincoln issued his notice against slavery and proclaimed, "that all slaves held as such in any of the states on January 1st, 1863, should be free."

On January 1st, 1863, the rebellion being still on, President Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation, wherein he "ordered and declared that all persons held as slaves within the designated territory, (states having taken part in the rebellion,) are, and henceforth shall be free; and that the Executive Government of the United States with the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons." By this act, 4,000,000 slaves were to have their freedom when the rebellion was put down.

Thus was consummated the greatest event of the nineteenth century, and was a distinguishing feature of the war. From that time the Union forces began to be victorious.

Only a very few incidents and early events of the Civil War are here noted, and these are given so as to furnish some idea of the condition of the country at that time.

It is not possible in the space to be allotted to a history of the town of Elma, that the whole itemized history should be given. It is sufficient to here say that the war continued with victories and defeats on both sides until April 9th, 1865, when General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House.

There are several very complete histories of the War of the Rebellion that give in full and detail all matters relating to the war.

On the evening of April 14th, 1865, President Lincoln was shot by J. Wilkes Booth, dying April 15th, term of office four years and forty days, and this act cast a gloom over the whole North, greater than anything that had transpired during the war. On the same evening, William H. Seward, Secretary of State, was assaulted and nearly lost his life. Both of these assaults were supposed to have been instigated and directed by leading men of the Confederacy.

On March 1, 1865, the aggregate of the Federal forces was 965,591, which by May 1st had increased to 1,000,576, when orders for disbanding were issued and on August 7th, 640,806 had been mustered out of the service and on November 15th, the number was increased to 800,963. The total loss of Union men was given as 316,000.

The Confederates reported their total forces as 549,226, losses unknown. They held of our men as prisoners in 1864, over 40,000, many of whom were starved to death in Salisbury, Libby, Dansville, Belle Island and other Southern prisons.

We held in 1864 over 100,000 Confederate prisoners in Elmira, Chicago, and other Northern camps.

Such a war could not be carried on for four years without using vast sums of money and as there was none to commence with in the Treasury, Congress called for loans and new issues of bonds, and more bonds and new calls were made as the needs of the government were presented and the people responded with a heartiness that astonished the nations of Europe; but it piled up a big debt as is here shown.

The Public Debt left by President Buchanan as a peace debt, in 1860 was \$64,769,703. This was increased in 1862 to \$511,826,272 and in 1864 to \$1,740,690,489, in 1865 to \$2,716,898,152, in 1866 \$2,773,236,173, when it reached the highest point, in 1868 to \$2,611,687,851, in 1870 to \$2,480,672,428.

Some may ask, "What has all this about the War of the Rebellion to do in a history of the town of Elma?" The reply is that the town of Elma is considered by the inhabitants residing therein as no mean part of the State of New York, or of the United States,

and as we were a part of the nation and had an interest in all its affairs, the history of that war is a part of our history, and while such an army, as before noted, was being put into the field and while all the states and all parts of every Northern State were responding to the President's call for volunteers, the State of New York having furnished 464,156 men, we desire here to show something of what the people of the town of Elma did in volunteers and in bounties.

Records are at hand, only from the first call in April, 1861, to July, 1st 1863. During that time nearly all, if not all of the following named persons enlisted (several were drafted later and served a short time, whose names are not in this list), and the money and supplies here mentioned were furnished, and as the war continued for one year and nine months longer, there can be no doubt but other men enlisted, whose names cannot now be learned, and more supplies were forwarded to the Sanitary Commission and Hospitals.

Here is an alphabetical list of those whose names can be learned who enlisted from the town of Elma, and most of them were in the service before July 1st, 1863.

Charles Anderson, 100th; John Anderson, ; Albert Aykroid, 94th; Melvin Aykroid, 94th; Andrew Baker, 10th Cav.; John Baker, 10th Cav.; Luke Baker, 100th; Obediah Baker, 98th; Robert Barnes, 94th; Martin Bender Scott, 900; Daniel Benzil, 10th Cav.; Philip Benzil, 10th Cav.; John F. Billington, 100th; Charles F. Blood, 10th Cav.; James Blood, 21st; Heimon Bohl, 10th Cav.; James Bowers, 78th; Brewer, 21st; Philander T. Briggs, 94th; John Brooks, 116th; James Chadderton, 94th; John F. Chadderton, 94th; Jordan W. Chadderton, 94th; Stanlius Chicker, 94th; Gilbert Chilcott, 10th Cav.; Lewis Chilcott, 10th Cav.; Almerin Clark, 78th; Thomas E. Clark, 94th; Samuel Clements, 94th; Thomas Clements, 116th; Timothy Clifford, 98th; Jason Cole, 94th; Perry Cole, 116th; George Davis, 98th; John Donner, 116th; Agust F. Drankhan, 94th; Michael Durshel, 78th; John Edner, —; William Eggert, 100th; Benjamin Farnham, 78th; Anthony Fellows, Lewis Fellows; Nicholas Fellows; Sherman Forbes, 49th; Delos Fowler, 116th; Theodore Fowler, Barnes Bat.; Isaac Freeman, 21st; Albert Fulford, 94th; John Garby, Wiederick's Battery; Joseph Garvin, 10th Cav.; James Gilmore, 100th; John Glaire, 94th; Wm. W. Grace, 116th; George W. Green, 94th; Henry Hamilton, 10th Cav.; Jonas Hamilton, 10th Cav.; Michael Hanrahan, 116th; James Hanvey; Daniel P. Harris, Barnes' Batt.; Albert Harvey, 116th; Wm. P. Hayden, 100th; Haynes, 78th; Conrad Heagle, 5th Art.; Joseph Helmer, 116th; Joseph Hesse, 78th; Alexis Hill; Marcus Hill; Robert Hill, 116th; Theodore Hitchcock, 10th Cav.;

Allen J. Hurd, 44th; Joseph Hunt, 100th; Wm. Joslyn; John Kilhoffer, 100th; Sylvester W. Kinney, 94th; John L. Kleberg, 100th; John Krause, 100th; Lawrence Krause, 94th; August Konnegeiser; Robert W. Lee, 49th; John Lemburger, 116th; John Linburger, 94th; Norton B. Lougee, 49th; Amos Matthews, 49th; Frederick Michaelis, Wiedrick's Battery; Wilbor Mitchell, 21st; Hiram Munson, Musquito Fleet; John Munson; Henry Mutter, 116th; Jacob Miller, Barnes' Battery; Michael McCabe; Eli B. Northrup, Barnes' Battery; Frank Noyes, 94th; David Palmer, 116th; Jesse W. Parker, 94th; Horace A. Paxson, 116th; Orvil Pomeroy, 116th; Ira J. Pratt, 116th; Salem Pratt, 94th; Charles E. Radean, 49th; George P. Rowley, 116th; Charles Standart, 116th; Deforest Standart, 21st; Joseph C. Standart, 116th; Wm. Wesley Standart, 94th; Hiram Sawyer, 116th; Peter Scheeler, 116th; John Schneider, Joseph Schuridt, 5th Art.; George Shufelt, 94th; Abram W. Smedes; Albert Smith, 116th; George Smith, Barnes' Battery; Godlip Strite, 10th Cav.; George W. Stowell, 116th; George Simmons, Battery G., 52nd; Almon Simmons; Charles Thayer, 116th; Luther J. Thurber, 94th; George W. Townsend, 116th; Chauncey P. Van Antwerp, 116th; Henry Van Antwerp, 116th; Wm. D. Wallace, 98th; Robert Watson 10th Cav.; Albert Wetherwax, 116th; Heman Worden, 10th Cav.; Isaac Wakeley; Pennock Winspear. Total 126.

Here are the names of persons who enlisted, and the arm of the service in which they entered so far as can now be learned, viz.:  
 21ST NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS.—James Blood, Brewer, Isaac Freeman, Wilbor Mitchell, Deforest Standart.

44TH REGIMENT.—Allen J. Hurd.

49TH REGIMENT.—Sherman Forbes, Robert W. Lee, Norton B. Lougee, Amos Matthews, Charles E. Radeau.

78TH REGIMENT.—James Bowers, Almerin Clark, Michael Durshee, Benjamin Farnham, Haynes, Joseph Hesse.

94TH REGIMENT.—Melvin Aykroid, Albert Aykroid, Robert Barnes, Philander T. Briggs, James Chadderdon, John F. Chadderdon, Jordan W. Chadderdon, Stanlius Chicker, Thomas E. Clark, Samuel Clements, Jason Cole, August F. Dranken, Albert Fulford, John Glaire, George W. Green, Sylvester W. Kinney, Lawrence Krouse, John Linburger, Frank Noyes, Jesse W. Parker, Salem Pratt, George Shufelt, W. Wesley Standart, Luther Thurber.

98TH REGIMENT.—Obediah Baker, Timothy Clifford, George Davis, Wm. D. Wallace.

100TH REGIMENT.—Charles Anderson, Luke Baker, John L. Billington, William Eggert, James Gilmore, Wm. P. Hayden, Joseph Hunt, John Kilhoffer, John L. Kleberg, John Kraus.

BARNES' RIFLE BATTERY.—Theodore Fowler, Daniel P. Harris, Jacob Miller, Eli B. Northrup, George Smith.



WEIDERICK'S BATTERY.—John Garby, Frederick Michaelis.

SCOTT'S 900 CAVALRY.—Martin Bender.

116TH REGIMENT.—John Brooks, Thomas Clements, Perry Cole, John Donner, Ambrose Fry, Delos Fowler, William W. Grace, Michael Hanrahan, Albert Harvey, Joseph Helmer, Robert Hill, John Limburger, Henry Mutter, David Palmer, Horace A. Paxton, Orvil Pomeroy, Ira J. Pratt, George P. Rowley, Hiram Sawyer, Peter Scheeler, Albert Smith, Joseph C. Standart, Charles Standart, George W. Stowell, Charles Thayer, George Townsend, Chauncey P. Van Antwerpt, Henry Van Antwerpt, Albert Wetherwax.

10TH CAVALRY.—Andrew Baker, John Baker, Daniel Benzil, Philip Benzil, Charles F. Blood, Hermon Bohl, Gilbert Chilcott, Lewis Chilcott, Joseph Gavin, Henry Hamilton, Jonas Hamilton, Theodore Hutchinson, Godlip Strite, Robert Watson, Herman Worden.

MUSQUITO FLEET, on Mississippi River.—Hiram Munson.

5TH ARTILLERY.—Conrad Heagle, Joseph Schuridt.

REGIMENT OR ARM OF SERVICE NOT KNOWN.—John Anderson, John Edner, Anthony Fellows, Lewis Fellows, Nicholas Fellows, James Hanvey, Alexis Hill, Marcey Hill, William Joslyn, August Konnegeiser, John Munson, George W. Simmons, Almon Simmons, John Schneider, Abram W. Smedes, Isaac Wakeley, Pennock Winpear.

RECAPITULATION.—In 21st Regiment 5, 44th Regiment 1, 49th Regiment 5, 78th Regiment 6, 94th Regiment 24, 98th Regiment 4, 100th Regiment 10, 116th Regiment 29, 10th Cavalry 15, Scott's 900 Cavalry 1, Barnes' Rifle Battery 5, Wiederick's Battery 2, 5th Artillery 2, Regiment not known 17. Total 126.

Most of these 126 enlisted before July 1st, 1863. Very likely some names have been overlooked.

At that time there were about 450 voters in the town. The United States Census for 1860 gave the total population of the town as 2136. Before the close of the war, by volunteer and draft, fully one-third of the voters were, or had been in the army.

How much money was paid out in the town of Elma to promote enlistments before July 1st, 1863? The answer is \$4112.

How much was raised by individual subscriptions? Answer: \$1051.

The persons who subscribed \$25, or over, were: Christopher Peek \$124, Clark W. Hurd \$124, Lewis Northrup \$124, Wm. M. Rice \$62, Joseph B. Briggs \$62, Paul B. Lathrop \$60, Horace Kyser \$57, Zenas M. Cobb \$42, Charles Arnold \$31, Chester Adams \$25, and \$340 in smaller sums, making a total of \$1051.



At a special town meeting it was voted to raise \$4000, by tax on the property of the town, to be used in the payment of bounties to volunteers. Of the \$1051 which had been raised by subscription, \$939 was paid back, being a part of the \$4000 voted at the town meeting. This left the amount actually paid of \$4112. Christopher Peek, supervisor, James Tillou, Clark W. Hurd, Charles Arnold and Warren Waters were a committee to take charge of and pay out, this \$4112.

While our soldiers were in the field, and the men at home were raising money as a bounty to hire more soldiers, the women of the town were showing their patriotism by doing what they could to furnish supplies for the hospitals and the Sanitary Commission.

There was no aid by church organizations as such, but many persons and families sent to soldiers in the hospitals and in the field, boxes and parcels of which there is no record. Ladies' Aid Societies were organized in almost every neighborhood where they held their weekly meetings, to procure and make such articles as were needed by the Sanitary Commission, and these supplies were forwarded to their destination.

Before July 1st, 1863, there had been sent by the ladies of the town the following, viz.:

Cash, \$15.00; dried fruit, 314 pounds; groceries, 42 pounds; honey, 85 pounds; soap, 6 pounds; sage, 1 pound; eggs, 26 dozen; lint, 26½ pounds; bandages, 343 pounds; compresses, 120 pounds; pads, 13; bundles of old linen, 6; bundles of old cotton, 6; towels, 30; bed sacks, 8; bed quilts, 2; bed comforters, 7; bed blankets, 4; sheets, 48; pillows, 19; pillow cases, 22; feather cushions, 2; hop cushions, 4; husk cushions, 2; double gowns, 1; pairs of drawers, 21; pairs of socks, 45; handkerchiefs, 56.

This is only a part of what the ladies furnished, for their work was continued during the four years of the war, to the very close.

No doubt, much more than the above was prepared and sent forward by individuals of which no account was kept and therefore no mention can be made, but the above shows the patriotic spirit of most of the people of the town of Elma in this war of the Rebellion.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### CAUSE OF THE CIVIL WAR.

The Slave Holders' Rebellion, or the Civil War in the United States which commenced in 1861, forms one of the extraordinary chapters for the historian to record. States which had, and should continue to have a common interest in the government were in this war arrayed against each other in deadly strife; families were divided, parents against children, brother against brother, ministers and people of the same church faith were divided, each praying for the defeat of the other.

The first gun of the war was fired at 4.30 o'clock, on the morning of April 12th, 1861, when the rebel batteries in Charleston Harbor, under command of General Beauregard, opened fire on Fort Sumter, commanded by Major Anderson; and the war continued until the main Confederate army commanded by General Lee, surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, April 9th, 1865.

During the war more than 1,000,000 men had been enrolled in the Federal army, and more than 600,000 men had served in the Confederate army.

The total loss in the Federal army was about 316,000 men besides those who died in Southern prisons and from disease contracted in the camp.

The Confederate loss was never reported but they lost about 4,000,000 slaves and other property the value of which was never known.

The war caused an increase in the United States public debt from \$64,770,000 dollars in 1860 to 2,773,237,000 dollars in 1866, at which time the debt reached its highest point.

With many who had not given much thought as to the affairs of the general government, the question was often asked, "Why was there a war between the North and South, or between the Slave and Free States?" And since the close of the war the same question has often been repeated. The answer, in time of the war, as given by those who were well posted in the matter was, "that the slave holders were determined to control the affairs of this government; that from the first they had used the institution of slavery as a lever to enable them to gain and hold the balance of power; that notwithstanding their persistence and threats to protect and

extend that institution, they had at the election in 1860, been so thoroughly defeated that in madness, they had decided to do their best to destroy the Union; and after several of the slave holding states had by their legislatures adopted ordinances of secession, they organized a Confederate government and then attempted and did capture the United States forts, thus beginning war."

The proceedings of Conventions and the debates in Congress are matters and record of history to which the reader is referred for full particulars.

A reference to some of the principal events which from the formation of the government in 1787 to the commencement of the war in 1861, had been the cause of difference between the Slave and Free States and were the subjects of debates in Congress and of discussion throughout the country and a few extracts from speeches made in Congress on these questions will be here given for those who have not the time or opportunity for a more extended research and which will show the spirit and determination of the political leaders in the South for the protection, extension and perpetuation of slavery, and in that way to hold the balance of political power in the United States; and also show the spirit and determination of the leaders and people of the North to check the extension of that institution.

The questions of extension and non-extension of slavery were by the Southern leaders brought to the front on the admission of every new state and were the cause of debates in Congress, and kept alive the fire of difference between the political parties and between the people of the Slave and Free States; the differences and the excitement between the two sections growing more and more bitter and serious each year until the war was actually begun.

In the convention to frame the Constitution of the United States in 1787, on the question of representation in Congress, the Southern slave holders demanded that their slaves should be enumerated with the whites, but a compromise was made by allowing five slaves to be counted as three freemen in the apportionment for Representatives. The African slave trade was another source of trouble in framing the Constitution. Most of the delegates wanted the trade abolished but the delegates from South Carolina and Georgia having declared that if there was to be no slave trade, there would be no Union, a compromise was made that the trade should be abolished after twenty years.

The purchase of the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803, brought in additional territory, the South claiming the whole as slave territory. The question was not settled until after a long and bitter debate in Congress, with threats of dissolution of the

Union from the Southern members, when Missouri was admitted as a Slave State, March 6th, 1820, with a compromise resolution that in the future no Slave State should be erected north of 36° 30' north latitude, that being the north line of Arkansas. It was thought at the North that this compromise measure would forever settle the question of slavery extension.

On the admission of Arkansas and Michigan in 1836, a most heated debate was had in Congress in which the Missouri Compromise was endangered by the Southern cry of disunion and balance of power. In 1842, in the discussion in Congress on the admission of Texas, Mr. Wise said, "let one more northern state be admitted and the equilibrium will be gone and gone forever." The South demanded Texas to save the balance of power. The leading object of the annexation was to strengthen slavery and save to the South the control of the government. The southern members of Congress and the people all through the Slave States raised the cry of "Texas or disunion."

#### 1845-1850.

For more than three years the discussion on the question, of the admission of Texas into the Union was very heated in Congress and by the people North and South; the North generally being opposed, and the people of the South in favor of the admission as that would give to the South the balance of power, as they then thought, for all time. Texas was admitted in 1845 as a Slave State with the privilege of being divided into four more states when occasion required.

War with Mexico was the result of annexation, and on May 11th, 1846, President Polk, in a communication to Congress said, "The Mexicans have at last invaded our territory and shed the blood of our fellow citizens on our own soil." The result of the war was that by the treaty with Mexico in 1848, we acquired California and other territory for which we paid \$18,000,000 to Mexico.

The debate in Congress on organizing the territory of Oregon and the admission of California as a state was long and bitter.

On January 29th, 1850, Henry Clay of Kentucky, leader of the Whig party in the United States Senate, submitted a series of resolutions proposing an amicable settlement of the whole slavery controversy. This was called an "Oninibus Bill," because it carried so many different subjects. The resolutions in part were as follows: "California, with suitable boundaries, ought to be admitted as a state, without restriction as to slavery.



Appropriate governments ought to be established in all the territory acquired from Mexico not assigned to California without restriction as to slavery.

More effectual provision ought to be made for the restitution of fugitive slaves."

These resolutions were warmly opposed by most of the Democratic Senators from the Slave States as making no concessions at all to the South. That the declaration, that slavery did not exist in New Mexico, precludes its admission there, etc., etc.

Mr. Thomas H. Benton, Democratic Senator from Missouri, and a life-long slave holder said, "Slavery had been abolished by Mexican law before we acquired the countries; that African slavery had never existed in Mexico in the form in which it existed in the States of this Union, and that if Mexican law was now in force in New Mexico and California, no slave holder from the Union would carry a slave thither except to set him free."

He affirmed these three points: 1st. "Slavery was abolished in California and New Mexico before we got them." 2nd. "Even if not abolished, no person would carry a slave to those countries, to be held under such law." 3d. "Slavery could not exist there except by positive law yet to be passed."

On the right of the slave holder to take his property into the territories, he said, "The citizens of all the states, free and slave, can not carry his *property* into the territories, neither can he carry that which is only property by state law. Every Slave State has a servile code of its own. The owner cannot carry his slave State Law with him into the territories or into another state; he must take the law which he finds there."

This doctrine was not acceptable to Mr. Calhoun and the ruling part of the Democratic party.

As John C. Calhoun, Senator from South Carolina, and leader of that party in the South voiced the sentiments of the slave holders generally, to give some of his statements in the debate in Congress on the admission of California, will show their position and demands on the slavery question at that time. He said, "The Union is in danger. The cause of this danger was the discontent at the South, and this discontent was found in the belief that they could not with honor and safety remain in the Union."

One of the causes was the long continued agitation of the slave question at the North. But the primary cause was in the fact that the equilibrium between the two sections at the time of the adoption of the Constitution had been destroyed. The first of the series of acts by which this had been done was the ordinance



of 1787, by which the South had been excluded from all the north-western region (all north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi Rivers). The next was the Missouri Compromise, excluding them from all of the Louisiana Territory north of 36° 30' except the State of Missouri; and now, the North was endeavoring to appropriate to herself the territory recently acquired from Mexico; from which the South was, if possible, to be excluded.

He censured Congress for receiving petitions against slavery extension. He disapproved of the plan of Mr. Clay as incapable of saving the Union.

Having shown how the Union could not be saved, he proceeded to answer the question, how it could be saved.

"There is but one way certain: justice must be done the South by a full and final settlement of all the questions at issue. The North must concede to the South an equal right in the acquired territory and fulfill the stipulations respecting fugitive slaves; must cease the agitation of the slave question and join in an amendment of the Constitution restoring to the South the power she possessed of protecting herself, before the equilibrium between the two sections had been destroyed by the action of the government." (This was spoken in 1850.)

Mr. Daniel Webster, Whig Senator from Massachusetts, spoke at length on the resolutions of Mr. Clay and in reply to Mr. Calhoun. He said: "that a change had taken place since the time of the adoption of the Constitution. Both sections then held slavery to be equally an evil, moral and political; it was inhuman and cruel; it weakened the social fabric and rendered labor less productive. The eminent men of the South held it to be an evil, a scourge and a curse. The framers of the Constitution in considering how to deal with it, concluded that it could not be continued if the importation of slaves should cease. The prohibition of the importation after twenty years was proposed and finally agreed to; a term which some Southern gentlemen, Mr. Madison for one, thought too long.

The ordinance of 1787 received the unanimous support of the South; a measure which Mr. Calhoun had said was the first in a series of measures which enfeebled that section. Mr. Calhoun had said that there had always been a majority in favor of the North. If that is so, the North has acted very liberally or very weakly; for they had seldom exercised their power. The truth was, the general lead in politics for three-fourths of the time since 1787 had been Southern lead. The Southern Senators say we deprive them of the right to go into the newly acquired territory with their property. We do not prevent them from going into those territories with what is in general law, called property. But these

Slave States have by their local laws created a property in persons and they cannot carry those local laws with them. Slavery is created and exists by local law which is limited to a certain section; and now, it is asked that Congress shall establish a local law in other territories to enable Southern Senators to carry their particular law with them. No man can hold a slave unless the local law accompany him."

Mr. William H. Seward, Whig Senator from New York, in addressing the Senate said: "It is now avowed by the Honorable Senator from South Carolina, (Mr. Calhoun) that nothing will satisfy the Slave States but a compromise that will convince them that they can remain in the Union consistently with their honor and their safety. And what are the concessions which will have that effect?" These are his words:

"There is but on way certain: Justice must be done the South by a full and final settlement of all the questions at issue. The North must concede to the South an equal right in the acquired territory and fulfill the stipulations respecting fugitive slaves; must cease the agitation of the slave question, and join in an amendment of the Constitution restoring to the South the power she possessed of protecting herself before the equilibrium between the two sections had been destroyed by the action of the government."

"It is said that the Slave States are in danger of losing political power by the admission of the new States. Well, sir, is there anything new in that? The Slave States have always been losing political power and they always will be while they have any to lose. At first, twelve of the thirteen states were Slave States; now only fifteen of the thirty are Slave States. The South demands the guaranty against the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia or they will have war, secession. When you have declared war against us, what shall hinder us from declaring that slavery shall cease in the national capitol? You say you will not submit to the exclusion of slaves from the new territories. Can you propagate slavery by the sword? You say you cannot submit to the freedom with which slavery is discussed in the Free States. Will war or war for slavery arrest, or even moderate that discussion? No, sir: that discussion will not cease; war will only inflame it to a greater height."

"Slavery has really nothing to fear; it has a reliable and accommodating ally in a party in the Free States, which though it claims to be, and doubtless is, in many respects a party of progress, finds its sole security for political power in the support and aid of slavery in the Slave States. Of course, I do not include in that party those who are now co-operating in maintaining the cause

of freedom against slavery. But it is only just and candid that I should bear witness to its fidelity to the interests of slavery."

Being asked by Mr. Lewis Cass, Democratic Senator from Michigan, if he believed there is a man in the Senate from the North whose course is influenced by his fidelity to slavery, Mr. Seward replied: "I think it was Mr. Jefferson who said 'that the natural ally of slavery in the South was the Democratic party of the North.'" A Senator replied that it was Mr. Buchanan. Mr. Seward, said: "I have heard it attributed to Mr. Jefferson. However that may be, I believe it. I assail the motives of no Senator. I acknowledge the patriotism, the wisdom, the purity of every member of this body. I have never assailed the motives of honorable Senators in any instance, I never shall. I ask leave to say, that such as I described is, in my view, the political organization of the parties of this country; that slavery has the support, the toleration, (given honestly and from patriotic motives, I admit,) of the party to which I referred, and that its alliance with slavery constitutes its tower of strength."

The foregoing shows the feeling that existed between the North and the South on the slavery question in 1850.

The Fugitive Slave Law passed September 18th, 1850 and signed by President Millard Fillmore, was especially objectionable to the humane instincts of most of the people of the Free States. Mr. John Van Buren in a letter dated April 4th, 1851, to a Massachusetts Convention, declared the act unconstitutional, because Congress had no power to legislate on the subject; the duty of surrendering slaves devolving on the state, to be executed by state laws, tribunals, and functionaries. That view was taken by many learned men in the North and by many Southern men of the State Rights School.

Within the first year of its existence, more persons were seized in the Free States as fugitive slaves than during the preceeding sixty years. Many persons who had lived in the North in unchallenged freedom from fifteen to twenty years were seized and carried away into life-long slavery; and the numerous cases of kidnapping free negroes and taking them to slavery, tended to increase the feeling of opposition to the whole scheme of slavery by the great mass of the people of the Free States.

The persistent determination of the slave holding Democrats in the debates in Congress on the Oregon question, and on the admission of California, and on the territorial government of the territory acquired from Mexico, the repeal of the Missouri Compromise act of 1820, the Kansas-Nebraska bill, known as the Squatter Sovereignty Bill, passed in May, 1854, and the decision of the Dred Scott case by the United States Supreme Court, were

like fire brands at the North, and served to unite the great mass of the Whig party of the North with the Free Soil part of the Democratic party in opposition to any further extension of slavery or more slave territory.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court, at the 1855 and 1856 term, in the Dred Scott case, was not made public until after the inauguration of Mr. Buchanan in 1857, but enough was known so that it was used against the Democratic party in the campaign of 1856.

Judge Taney, in giving the opinion of the Court said, "Dred Scott being a negro, and descended from slaves, was not a citizen, and no state could make its slaves citizens; and he had no right to bring suit for his liberty; that neither Dred Scott nor his family were made free by being carried into St. Louis, that being in territory North of 36° 31' north latitude." Dred's freedom was claimed on the ground that he had been taken by his master into the Free State of Illinois, and there retained some two or three years.

Judge Taney says: "that the claim was not properly before the Court; that the plaintiff is not a citizen of Missouri, in the sense in which that word is used in the Constitution, and that the Circuit Court, for that reason, had no jurisdiction, and the suit must be dismissed. Several other Judges assented to the views as expressed by Judge Taney.

Judge Daniel went further and said, "that ordinance of 1787 was only equal in constitutionality and validity, with the Missouri Compromise, and was void." This opinion opened the door for slave holders to take their slaves into any of the Free States, and caused great consternation throughout the North. Mr. Webster, the great constitutional lawyer, had said in 1850, "that no man can be held as a slave unless the local law accompany him."

Justice McLean from Ohio, one of the members of the United States Supreme Court, in his opinion dissenting from that of the Court in the Dred Scott case says, "Will it be said that the slave is taken as property, the same as other property which the master may own? To this I answer, that colored persons are made property by the law of the state, and no such power has been given to Congress. The Constitution in express terms recognizes the status of slavery as founded on the municipal law; 'No person held to service or labor in one state, under the laws thereof,' etc. Now, unless the fugitive escape from a place where, by the municipal law he is held to labor, this provision affords no remedy to the master. Suppose a slave escape from a territory where slavery is not authorized by law, can he be reclaimed?"



From December 13th, 1852, the attempt to organize the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska caused exciting and heated debate in Congress and throughout the country. Finally, the bill passed both houses and was signed by President Pierce May 24th, 1854. In the House, the vote was fifty-seven Democrats and twelve Whigs from the Slave States, with forty-four Democrats from the Free States—total 113. Against the bill, the vote was seven Whigs and two Democrats from the Slave States and forty-four Whigs, forty-four Democrats and three Free Soil, from the Free States—total ninety-one.

A large majority of the slave holding Whigs of the South having joined the slave holding Democrats in their slavery extension scheme, made nearly a solid pro-slavery party in the South while the Whig party was apparently on the point of dissolution, it being divided on the slavery question.

The Democratic party North, and the Native American party were about equally divided, the Abolition party, making the balance, of the Northern voters were all greatly excited over the abominations practiced under the Fugitive Slave Law and the determination and success of the South in the repeal of the Missouri Compromise act of 1820, and in the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska act which gave to the South the privilege of taking their slaves into the territories.

Before the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska act, nearly all of these territories were covered by Indian Reservations on which settlement by the whites was strictly forbidden except by government agents and missionaries. The government agents were Democrats and violent partisans of slavery extension. Just before the final passage of the bill to organize the territories, treaties were quietly made with the Delaware, Otoe, Kickapoo, Kaskakia, Shawnee, Sacks, Fox, and other tribes of Indians, whereby the greater part of the eastern portion of these territories was suddenly allowed to be opened to white settlers. This whole arrangement was known to the Missourians and to people in the other Slave States, who had been organizing "Blue Lodges," "Social Bands," "Sons of the South," and other societies, with the intent of taking possession of Kansas in behalf of slavery.

Kansas was opened to settlement by proclamation of President Pierce, May 30th, 1854, and hundreds of Missourians were ready and crossed into the territory, selecting each his piece of land, in that way establishing a kind of pre-emption upon all that region.

At the North, Emigrant Aid Societies were organized to help Free State men to go to Kansas. To the close of President Pierce's administration, the slave holders all through the South, backed by the Government at Washington, used every means within their



reach to make Kansas a Slave State; and by intimidation, murder, "Border Ruffian Raids," and illegal voting, tried to force slave laws and a Slave Constitution upon the people.

Governors for the Territories were appointed by the President, and it was expected that they would, so far as possible, see to it that the interests of slavery were protected.

Andrew H. Reeder of Pennsylvania, the first Governor for Kansas took the oath of office, July 7th, 1854, and reached Kansas in October. Soon after his arrival he commenced the work of organizing the Territory. His proclamation for the election of a Territorial Delegate to Congress did not provide for the election of a Territorial Legislature. This failure was not pleasing to the Missourians. No census had been taken previous to the election of the Delegate.

The election, although carried by an invasion of Missourians, was not contested. The total vote was 2838 of which 1729 were given by Missourians who came across the Missouri River to vote and then returned. At one voting place, 604 votes were polled, of which only twenty were legal, 584 were from Missouri. John W. Whitfield, the slave holder's candidate at this election received 2268 votes, to 570 for the other candidate. By taking the Missouri vote, 1729, from the total vote received by Whitfield, 2268, it would leave 539 votes for Whitfield by residents of Kansas, and 570 against him.

#### 1855.

Early in 1855, George Reeder had a census taken, and arrangements were made for an election of members to form a Territorial Legislature. The census showed a total population of 8,501, of which 2,905 were voters, and 242 were slaves. At the election for members of the Legislature, only 831 legal electors voted, the total vote being 6,320. An invasion from Missouri carried the election by storm and a majority of the members elected received certificates of election from the Governor.

"The Platte Argus," a Missouri paper, in an editorial on this election said: "It is admitted that the Missourians have conquered Kansas; our advise is to hold it or die in the attempt." The Legislature was called by the Governor to meet at Pawnee City on the Kansas River, nearly 100 miles from the Missouri border. The Legislature was immediately adjourned over the Governor's veto, to Shawnee Mission, directly on the line of Missouri. This Legislature passed one act, whereby the laws of Missouri generally were adopted and declared to be the laws of Kansas, and other acts, specially upholding and fortifying slavery; Section twelve of which

reads as follows: "If any free person, by speaking or writing, shall assert or mention, that persons have not the right to hold slaves in this Territory, or shall introduce into this Territory, print, publish, write, circulate, or cause to be introduced into the Territory, or written, printed, published and circulated in this Territory, any book, paper, magazine, pamphlet or circular, containing any denial of the right of persons to hold slaves in this Territory; such person shall be deemed guilty of felony, and punished by imprisonment at hard labor, for a term not less than two years."

This Legislature, whose acts were systematically vetoed by Governor Reeder, but passed over his head, memorialized the President for the removal of Reeder. He went to Washington and placed the whole condition before President Pierce, and urged the cause of the people against invasion. When the President found that the Governor could not be used to further the cause of slavery in Kansas, as against the actual settlers in the Territory, he asked for Reeder's resignation, which the Governor refused, and the President removed him August 16th, 1855. The same day the President appointed Wilson Shannon of Ohio, as Governor of Kansas.

Daniel Woodson, the Secretary of the Territory, acted as Governor from August 16th, 1855, to September 7th, 1855, the date on which Shannon arrived in Kansas. Shannon on his way to Kansas stopped at Westport, Missouri, the headquarters of border ruffians. In a speech at that place he said, "He considered the Legislature which had recently adjourned to Shawnee Mission, a legal assembly; that its laws were binding on the authorities and on every citizen of the Territory; that he was for slavery in Kansas." He assumed the duties of Governor, September 7th, 1855, and held until August 18th, 1856.

The actual settlers of Kansas were not willing to submit to the impudent and hostile usurpation which had elected Whitfield as Delegate to Congress and imposed on them a fraudulent legislature. They held a mass-convention at Big Springs on September 5th, 1855, where they repudiated the laws and officers imposed on Kansas by the Border Ruffian invasion, and refused to submit to them. A Delegate Convention was called, to be held at Topeka, September 19th, where an election for Delegate to Congress was called, to be held on the second Tuesday of October.

Ex-Governor Reeder was nominated for Delegate at this Convention, while Whitfield was the Candidate of the Pro-slavery party. Both were elected by their respective parties.

On October 23d, 1855, the actual settlers organized a Constitutional Convention at Topeka, and formed a Free State Constitution, under which they asked Congress for admission into the Union as a State.

The 34th Congress assembled at Washington, December 3d, 1855. Whitfield was there as Delegate, and Reeder as Contestant. The House on March 19th, 1856, resolved to send a special committee to Kansas to inquire into the anarchy which prevailed there. The committee composed of William A. Howard of Michigan, John Sherman of Ohio and Mordecai Oliver of Missouri, immediately went to Kansas and spent several weeks in taking testimony. On their return they reported:

FIRST. That each election in the Territory held under the organic or alleged Territorial law, had been carried by organized invasion from the State of Missouri, by which the people of the Territory have been prevented from exercising the rights secured to them by their organic law.

SECOND. That the alleged Territorial Legislature was an illegally constituted body, and had no power to pass valid laws; and that their enactments are therefore null and void.

THIRD. That these alleged laws have not, as a general thing, been used to protect persons and property and to punish wrong, but for unlawful purposes.

FOURTH. That the election, under which sitting Delegate John W. Whitfield holds his seat, was not held in pursuance of any valid law.

FIFTH. That the election, under which Andrew H. Reeder claims a seat, was not held in pursuance of any valid law.

SIXTH. That Andrew H. Reeder received a greater number of the votes of resident citizens for Delegate than did John W. Whitfield.

SEVENTH. That in the present condition of the Territory, a fair election cannot be held without a new census, a stringent and well guarded election law, the selection of impartial judges, and the presence of the United States troops at every place of election."

Whitfield held his seat to the end of that Congress. A bill admitting Kansas as a State under her Free State Constitution, passed the House by a vote of ninety-nine to ninety-seven. The Senate which was strongly pro-slavery, defeated the bill.

Governor Shannon, it will be seen, came to Kansas in a bad time, excitement was running high. His speech at Westport was in the line of the spirit of the Missouri border ruffian element, to make Kansas a slave state; but he soon found that he was standing on dangerous ground, for the Free State men were a large majority in the Territory, and they demanded their rights under the act of Congress organizing the Territory. The Slave State party urged him to see that the laws passed by the bogus legislature, were enforced. During the winter of 1855 and 1856, that party matured their plans for burning Lawrence, which took place May 21st, 1856.

This was really the beginning of the Kansas war. Their plan also included the getting control of the Legislature, which was called to meet at Topeka on July 4th. Another move was to completely stop all opposition to Kansas becoming a Slave State.

This was to be effected by enforcing the laws enacted by their bogus Legislature, and especially Section 12—for this section see page 180). This law, if enforced, would send every Free State man in the Territory to the penitentiary for not less than two years, and with the whole power of the Federal Government to see that these laws were enforced, there remained but little hope that Kansas could be saved from the slave power.

Delegations were sent from Kansas to notify the Governors and other influential persons in the Free States of the plot. The eastern press took up the cry of Free Soil and Free Speech, and the report of the committee which had been sent by Congress to look after the anarchy which existed in Kansas, which had been, and was being printed by every Free Soil paper in the Northern States, created such an excited state of feeling among the masses of people as to greatly alarm the leaders of the Democratic party at Washington, and the enforcement of Section 12 was dropped.

The "American" National Convention, for nominating candidates for President and Vice-president, was held in Philadelphia, February 22d, 1856. All the states were represented except Maine, Vermont, South Carolina and Georgia. The platform condemns the Democratic party and the Administration for re-opening sectional agitation by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise Act.

Millard Fillmore received the nomination for President and Andrew J. Donelson for Vice-president.

The Democratic National Convention for 1856, met at Cincinnati Ohio, on June 2d. The platform held "the principles contained in the organic laws, establishing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, as embodying the only sound and safe solution of the slavery question." James Buchanan received the nomination for President, and John C. Breckenridge for Vice-president.

The slavery question had completely destroyed the Whig party. The First National Convention of the Republican party was held at Pittsburg, Penn., February 22d, 1856, but there were no nominations made. The nominating convention was held at Philadelphia on June 17th. The platform said, "We deny the authority of Congress, of a Territorial Legislature, or of any individual, or association of individuals, to give legal existence to slavery in any Territory of the United States while the present Constitution shall be maintained." John C. Fremont of California, was nominated for President and William L. Dayton of Ohio, for Vice-president.



The Presidential Campaign was open and the cry of "Free Soil, Free Speech, and Fremont" rang through the Free States in a way that made the Pro-slavery party fear and tremble.

Governor Shannon resigned August 18th, 1856, and left the Territory, in the night through fear of assassination by members of his own party, and left the work for Secretary Woodson, who at once declared the Territory in a state of insurrection and called out the militia. Woodson acted as Governor until September 18th, when John W. Geary of Pennsylvania, became Governor, and he served until March 12th, 1857.

Geary was sent to quiet matters in Kansas, if possible, as the speeches of members of the Republican party and their press in the Free States charging the trouble in Kansas to the Democratic party was convincing the leaders of that party that something must be done or they would fail at the election.

The Presidential Campaign all through was one of great interest and excitement.

Buchanan's popular vote was .....	1,838,169
Fremont's           "       "       " .....	1,341,264
Fillmore's           "       "       " .....	874,534
<hr/>	
Total vote.....	4,053,947

Fremont carried the State of New York by 80,000 majority and with the New England States, Ohio, Michigan, Iowa and Wisconsin, he had 114 electoral votes. James Buchanan had 174 electoral votes and was elected. Buchanan lacked 377,629 votes of a majority over both his competitors.

The Act of Congress organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, passed May 24th, 1854, repealed the Missouri compromise Act of 1820, which excluded slavery north of 36° 30', and declared that act to be unconstitutional and void. It contained as a part of Section 21 of the act as follows:

"And be it further enacted, that in order to avoid all misconception, it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of this act, so far as slavery is concerned, to carry into practical operation the following propositions and principles established by the Compromise measure of 1850.

FIRST. That all questions, pertaining to slavery in the territories and in the States to be formed therefrom are to be left to the people residing therein through their appropriate representatives.



This was the so-called Squatter Sovereignty plan and in the debate on this proposition in Congress, Mr. Douglass stated that the "object was neither to legislate slavery into or out of the Territories; neither to introduce it, or exclude it; but to remove whatever obstacle Congress had put there, and apply the doctrine of Congressional non-intervention and allow the people to do as they pleased upon this as on all other matters affecting their interests."

The repeal of the Missouri Compromise Act, and allowing slaves to be held in the Territories was made to satisfy the demands of the slave holders, and to give them the right to take their slaves into the Territories, expecting in that way to increase the number of Slave States.

Under and through Buchanan's administration the Slave Power did its best to make Kansas a Slave State. After Geary left Kansas in the night, through fear of assassination by members of his own party, other Governors were sent, and they followed each other in quick succession, Frederick P. Stanton, Robert J. Walker, James W. Denver, Hugh C. Walsh, Samuel Medary and George M. Beebe, each had a turn; and Congress sent committee after committee to investigate and report.

The Free State men of Kansas had adopted a Constitution excluding Slavery, which had been accepted by the House, but the Senate, by one excuse or another, refused to grant admission until after the Presidential election of 1860 when, at near the close of Buchanan's administration, on January 21st, 1861, the Senate, by a vote of thirty-six to sixteen, passed the act of admission; and a few days later the House passed the same act by 119 to forty-two, and thus Kansas became the thirty-fourth state of the Union.

So much space has been given to the trouble in Kansas because the whole force and power of the slave holders and of the Democratic party were used to compel her admission as a Slave State, and the great battle for or against the further extension of slavery was being fought on Kansas soil.

Governor Robinson, the first Governor of Kansas as a State, said: "Kansas was not saved by this man or by that man; by this town or that town; but it took all the Free State men and all the Free State towns in Kansas, aided by all the Free State men of all the States as well, to succeed in establishing freedom, where the Slavery men and Slave States backed by the Federal Government had determined to establish Slavery."

The South, with the help of the Government, for six years had failed on the Squatter Sovereignty platform to compel Kansas to adopt a Slave Constitution and this plan for additional Slave States to enable the South to control the Government having failed, the leaders resolved to force the question, "that neither Congress nor

a Territorial Legislature possess the power to prevent any citizen from taking his slave property into the Territory and there hold them as slaves."

The feeling of the people north and south on the slavery question is told in the proceedings in Congress and the debates in the Conventions of the political parties in 1860 and in their platforms and nominations.

The 36th Congress assembled December 5th, 1859. The Senate was strongly Democratic, the House being more equally divided.

On February 2d, 1860, Jefferson Davis submitted a series of resolutions in the Senate, all on the slavery question and the rights of the slave holders in the territories.

Section 4 of the series is as follows:

*"Resolved.* That neither Congress nor a Territorial Legislature, whether by direct legislation, or legislation of an indirect and unfriendly character, possess the power to annul or impair the Constitutional right of any citizen of the United States, to take his slave property into the common territories, and there hold and enjoy the same while the territorial condition remains."

This, the deathblow to Popular Sovereignty, was passed in the Senate by a vote of thirty-five to twenty-one, every Democratic Senator present but Mr. Pugh of Ohio voting for it, and this sentiment answered as a good excuse for the refusal by the Senate to allow Kansas to become a state under their Free State Constitution.

The Alabama Democratic State Convention, to elect delegates to the Democratic National Convention, which had been called to meet at Charleston, S. C., on April 23d, 1860, adopted the following, to wit:

*"Resolved:* That on the subject of slavery, we claim the unqualified right of the people of the slave holding States, to protection of their property in the States, in the Territories, and in the wilderness in which territorial governments are, as yet, unorganized.

*"Resolved.* That it is the duty of the General Government, by all proper legislation, to secure an entry into those Territories, to all the citizens of the United States, together with their property of every description; and that the same should be protected by the United States while the Territories are under its authority.

*"Resolved.* That the Territories of the United States, are common property, in which all States have equal rights, and to which the citizens of every State may rightfully emigrate with their slaves or other property, recognized as such, in any of the States of the Union or by the Constitution of the United States.

*"Resolved.* That the Congress of the United States has no power to abolish slavery in the Territories or to prohibit its introduction into any of them.

*“Resolved.* That the Territorial Legislatures have no power to abolish slavery, or to prohibit the introduction of the same, or to impair by unfriendly legislation the security and full enjoyment of the same within the territories.

*“Resolved.* That the principles enunciated by Chief Justice Taney in his opinion in the Dred Scott case, deny to the Territorial Legislatures the power to destroy or impair by any legislation whatever, the right of property in slaves, and maintains it to be the duty of the Federal Government in all its departments to protect the rights of the owner of such property in the territories; and the principles, so declared, are hereby asserted to be the rights of the South, and the South should maintain them.

*“Resolved.* That we hold all the foregoing propositions to contain cardinal principles, just and proper, and necessary for the safety of all that is dear to us, and that our Delegates to the Charleston Convention are hereby expressly instructed to insist, that said Convention shall adopt a platform of principles recognizing distinctly the rights of the South, as asserted in the foregoing resolutions; and that if said National Convention shall refuse to adopt in substance, the propositions embraced in the foregoing resolutions, prior to the nominating of Candidates, our delegates to said Convention, are hereby positively instructed to withdraw therefrom.”

These resolutions are in the same spirit as the resolutions presented to the Senate on February 2d, by Jefferson Davis and which were adopted by the Senate on May 24th, 1860.

The Democratic National Convention met at Charleston, S. C., on April 23d, 1860. The majority report of the Committee on Platform was presented by Mr. Avery of North Carolina on the slavery question.

*“Resolved.* That the National Democracy of the United States hold these cardinal principles on the subject of slavery in the territories.

FIRST. That Congress has no power to abolish slavery in the territories.

SECOND. That the Territorial Legislatures have no power to abolish slavery in the Territories, nor to prohibit the introduction of slaves therein, nor any power to destroy or impair the right of property in slaves by any legislation whatever.” (This was concurred in by the delegates of the Platform Committee of the fifteen Slave States, with Oregon and California.)

The above resolutions were modified by the committee so as to read as follows:

FIRST. “That the government of a Territory organized by an Act of Congress is provisional and temporary; and during its

existence all citizens of the United States have an equal right to settle with their property in the Territory, without their rights either of person or property being destroyed or impaired by Congressional or Territorial Legislation.

SECOND. "That it is the duty of the Federal Government in all its departments to protect, when necessary the rights of persons and property in the Territories and wherever else its Constitutional authority extends.

THIRD. "That when the settlers in a territory having an adequate population form a State Constitution, the right of sovereignty commences, and, being consummated by admission into the Union, they stand on an equal footing with the people of other States; and that the State thus organized ought to be admitted into the Federal Union whether its Constitution prohibits or recognizes the institution of slavery."

Mr. Avery on presenting the resolutions stated the ground of difference with the minority as follows:

"We demand at the hands of our northern brethern upon this floor, that the great principles which we cherish should be recognized, and I speak the common sentiments of our constituents at home; and I intend no reflection upon those who entertain a different opinion when I say that the result and ultimate consequences to the Southern States of this Confederacy, if the Popular Sovereignty Doctrine be adopted as the doctrine of the Democratic party, would be as dangerous and subversive of their rights as the adoption of the principles of Congressional intervention or prohibition.

We say that in a contest for the occupation of the territories of the United States, the southern man, encumbered with slaves, cannot compete with the Emigrant Aid Society of the North. That Society can send a voter to one of the Territories of the United States to determine a question relating to slavery for the sum of \$200, while it would cost the southern man the sum of \$1500.

We say that whenever there is competition between the South and the North, that the North can and will at less expense and difficulty, secure power, control and dominion over the Territories of the Federal Government; and if then you establish the doctrine, that a Territorial Legislature which may be established by Congress in any Territory, has the right directly or indirectly to affect the institution of Slavery then you can see that the Legislature by its action, either directly or indirectly, may finally exclude every man from the slave holding States as effectually as if you had adopted the Wilmot Proviso out and out."



Mr. Henry B. Payne of Ohio presented a minority platform which after some changes was presented by Mr. Samuels of Iowa. On the Slavery question it said:

“Resolved—That the Democratic party will abide by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States on the questions of Constitutional law.”

Mr. Butler of Massachusetts disagreed with both reports and wanted simply the Cincinnati Platform of 1856 and there to stop.

After a long debate the minority report was adopted April 30th.

Mr. L. P. Walker of Alabama presented a written protest of twenty of the twenty-eight delegates from Alabama showing that they were instructed by the State Convention which elected them not to submit to any Squatter Sovereignty platform, but to withdraw from the Convention in case such a one was adopted. The Alabama Delegation concluded with the following statement:—

“The points of difference between the northern and southern Democracy are:

1st—As regards the status of Slavery as a political institution in the Territories, whilst they remain Territories, and the power of the people of a Territory to exclude it by unfriendly legislation and

2nd—As regards the duty of the Federal Government to protect the owner of slaves in the enjoyment of his property in the Territories so long as they remain such.

This Convention has refused by the platform adopted to settle either of these propositions in favor of the South. We deny to the people of a territory any power to legislate against the institution of Slavery; and we assert that it is the duty of the Federal Government, in all its departments, to protect the owner of slaves in the enjoyment of his property in the Territories. These principles, as we state them, are embodied in the Alabama Platform. Here then, is a plain, explicit, and direct issue between this Convention and the constituencies which we have the honor to represent in this body.

Instructed, as we are, not to waive this issue, the contingency, therefore, has arisen which, in our opinion, it becomes our duty to withdraw from this Convention. We beg to communicate this fact and to assure this Convention that we do so in no spirit of anger but under a sense of imperative obligation, properly appreciating its responsibilities and cheerfully submitting to its consequences.”

Mr. Yancey of the southern delegation said: “The last Presidential election was won by ambiguity, double-dealing, and deception; by devising a platform that meant one thing at the North and another at the South.

We are resolved to have no more of this. We shall now succeed on a clear exhibition of our principles or not at all.”

Mr. George E. Pugh of Ohio, a Douglass Democrat, said: "Thank God that a bold and honest man has at last spoken and told the whole truth with regard to the demands of the South. It is now plainly before the Convention and the country that the South *does* demand an advanced step from the Democratic party." He proceeded then to show that the northern Democrats had sacrificed themselves in battling for the rights of the South; and instanced one after another of the Delegates there present who had been defeated and thrown out of public life thereby. "And now, the very weakness thus produced is urged why the North should have no voice in forming the platform."

The Democracy is willing to stand by the old landmarks; to reaffirm the old faith. We deeply regret to part with our southern brethren. But if they can only abide with us on the terms they have now proposed, they *must go*. The Northwest must, and will be heard and felt. The northern Democrats are not children to be told to stand here, to stand there, to be moved by the beck and bidding of the South. Because we are in a minority on account of our fidelity to our Constitutional obligations, we are told in effect, that we must put our hands on our mouths and our mouths in the dust. Gentlemen, you mistake us; we will not do it."

The Southern leaders said: "Gentlemen from the North, look well to your doing! If you insist on your Squatter Sovereignty platform, in full view of its condemnation by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, you break up the Democratic party—nay more; you break up the Union! The unity of the Democratic party is the last bond that holds the Union together; that snapped, there is no other that can be trusted for a year."

The Alabama Delegation then withdrew, being followed by the Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Florida, and a part of the Georgia Delegates.

Mr. W. B. Gaulden of Georgia said: "He would ask his friends of the South to come up in a proper spirit and ask our Northern friends to give us *all* our rights and take away the ruthless restrictions which cut off the supply of slaves from foreign lands. As a matter of right and justice to the South, I would ask the Democracy of the North to grant us this thing; and I believe they have the patriotism and honesty to do it, because it is right in itself. I tell you, fellow Democrats, that the African Slave-trader is the true Union man. The Slave-trader of Virginia is more immoral, more unchristian in every point of view, than the African Slave-trader who goes to Africa and brings a heathen and worthless man here, makes him a useful man, Christianizes him, and sends him and his posterity down the stream of time to enjoy the blessings of civiliza-

tion. Virginia, the great Slave-trading state of Virginia, is opposed to the African Slave trade."

Dr. Reed of Indiana said—"I am from Indiana and I am in favor of it."

Mr. Gaulden, continued, "Now, Virginia which authorizes the buying of Christian men, separating them from their wives and children from all the relations and associations amid whom they have lived for years, roll up her eyes in holy horror when I would go to Africa, buy a savage, and introduce him to the blessings of civilization and Christianity."

Capt. Rynders of New York said—"You can get one or two recruits from New York to join with you."

Mr. Gaulden—"It has been my fortune to go into Virginia to buy a few darkies; and I have had to pay \$1,000 to \$2,000 a head, when I could go to Africa and buy better negroes for fifty dollars apiece. If any of you northern Democrats will go home with me to my plantation in Georgia, I will show you some darkies that I bought in Maryland, some I bought in Delaware, some I bought in Virginia, some in Florida, some in North Carolina, and I will also show you the pure African, the noblest Roman of them all.

I come from the First Congressional District of the State of Georgia. I represent the African Slave-trade interest of that section. I say to the northern Democracy, are you prepared to go back to first principles, and take off your Constitutional restrictions and leave this question to be settled by each state? Now, do this, and you will have peace in the country. But so long as your Federal Legislature takes jurisdiction of this question, so long will there be war, so long there will be ill blood and strife until this glorious Union of ours shall be disrupted and go out in blood and night forever. I advocate the repeal of the laws prohibiting the African Slave-trade because I believe it to be the true Union movement. I do not believe that sections whose interests are so different as the southern and northern states, can ever stand the shocks of fanaticism unless they be equally balanced. I believe that, re-opening this trade and giving us negroes to populate the territories, the equilibrium of the two sections will be maintained."

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for President. After the fifty-seventh ballot, and no candidate chosen, the Convention after being in session ten days, on May 3d adjourned, to re-assemble at Baltimore on Monday, June 18th, and recommended the Democratic party of the several States whose delegates had withdrawn to fill their places prior to that date.

The seceding Delegates held a meeting with Senator Bayard of Delaware in the chair, and adopted the Avery Platform. After

four days deliberation, this Convention adjourned to meet at Richmond, Va., on the second Monday of June (11th).

The regular Convention met at Baltimore, pursuant to adjournment, on June 18th. Several days were spent on contested seats from the Southern States; and when this was concluded, the whole or part of the Delegates from Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Missouri and California, withdrew from the Convention.

General Cushing resigned the chair which was immediately taken by Governor Todd of Ohio, a Vice-president at the Charleston Convention.

General B. F. Butler of Massachusetts, said "that a majority of the Delegates from Massachusetts would not participate farther in the deliberation of the Convention." General Butler said, "there has been a withdrawal, in part, of a majority of the states; and further, upon the ground that I will not sit in a Convention when the African slave trade, which is piracy by the laws of my country, is approvingly advocated." This caused a great sensation.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for President. On the second ballot, Stephen A. Douglas received two-thirds of the votes and was declared to be the regular nominee of the Democratic party of the United States for the office of President.

Hon. Benjamin Fitzpatrick of Alabama was elected as Vice-president. Two days later he declined the nomination, and the National Committee substituted Hershel V. Johnson of Georgia.

The Secession Convention met at Richmond, Va. June 11th, and adjourned to Baltimore and finally met at St. Mary's Institute, June 28th. Twenty-one States were fully or partly represented.

Mr. Avery again submitted his Charleston Platform, which was adopted without alteration.

The Convention by unanimous vote elected John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky as their candidate for President and General Joseph Lane of Oregon, candidate for Vice-president.

The "Constitutional Union," (late American party) held a convention at Baltimore, on May 19th, and nominated John Bell of Tennessee as candidate for President and Edward Everett of Massachusetts as candidate for Vice-president. Their platform resolved, that it is both the part of patriotism and of duty to recognize no political principle other than the Constitution of the Country, the Union of the States, and the enforcement of the laws. Nothing said on the slavery question.

The Republican National Convention met in Chicago, Ill., on Wednesday, May 16th, 1860. All the Free States were well represented and delegates were there from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, and the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska.



A platform committee of one from each state and territory represented was appointed the first day. The committee submitted a report on the evening of the second day, which was immediately and unanimously adopted. The part on the Slavery question was as follows.

RESOLUTION SECOND. "That the principle promulgated in the Declaration of Independence and embodied in the Federal Constitution, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, is essential to the preservation of our Republican institutions; and that the Federal Constitution, the rights of the states, and the Union of the states, must and shall be preserved.

THIRD. That to the Union of the states this nation owes its unprecedented increase in population, its surprising development of material resources, its rapid augmentation of wealth, its happiness at home and its honor abroad; and we hold in abhorrence all schemes for dis-union, come from whatever source they may: we denounce those threats of dis-union, in case of a popular overthrow of their ascendancy, as denying the vital principles of a free government, and as an avowal of contemplated treason, which it is the imperative duty of an indignant people sternly to rebuke and forever silence.

FOURTH. That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the states and especially the right of each state, to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of powers on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend; and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes.

SEVENTH. That the new dogma, that the Constitution of its own force, carries slavery into all of the territories of the United States, is a dangerous political heresy, at variance with the explicit provisions of that instrument itself, with contemporaneous exposition, and with legislative and judicial precedent; is revolutionary in its tendency, and subversive of the peace and harmony of the country.

EIGHTH. That the normal condition of all the territory of the United States, is that of freedom: That as our Republican fathers, when they had abolished slavery in all our national territory, ordained that "no person should be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law," it becomes our duty by

legislation, whenever such legislation is necessary to maintain this provision of the constitution against all attempts to violate it; and we deny the authority of Congress, of a Territorial Legislation, or of any individuals, to give legal existence to slavery in any territory of the United States.

NINTH. That we brand the recent reopening of the African slave trade under the cover of our national flag, aided by perversions of judicial power, as a crime against humanity and a burning shame to our country and age; and we call upon Congress to take prompt and efficient measures for the total and final suppression of that execrable traffic.

TENTH. That in the recent vetoes by the Federal Governors, of the Acts of the Legislatures of Kansas and Nebraska prohibiting slavery in those territories, we find a practical illustration of the boasted Democratic principle of Non-intervention and Popular Sovereignty embodied in the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and a demonstration of the deception and fraud involved therein.

ELEVENTH. That Kansas, should of right be immediately admitted as a state under the Constitution recently formed, and adopted by the House of Representatives."

The convention then proceeded to ballot for President. On the third ballot Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, having received a majority of all votes cast; Mr. William M. Evarts of New York, moved that the nomination be made unanimous; seconded by Mr. John A. Andrews of Massachusetts, and Abraham Lincoln was made the choice of the convention. On the second ballot for Vice-president, Hannibal Hamlin of Maine, received 367 votes to ninety-nine for all others and was declared duly nominated.

The Douglas, Breckenridge and Lincoln parties were planted on the following principles.

DOUGLAS. —Slavery or no slavery in any territory is entirely the affair of the white inhabitants of such territory. If they choose to have it, it is their right; if they choose *not* to have it, they have a right to exclude or prohibit it. Neither Congress nor the people of the Union or of any part of it outside of said territory have any right to meddle with or trouble themselves about the matter.

BRECKENRIDGE —The citizen of any state has the right to migrate to any territory, taking with him anything which is property by the law of his own state, and hold, enjoy, and be protected in the use of such property in said territory. And Congress is bound to render such protection whenever necessary whether with or without the co-operation of the Territorial Legislature.

LINCOLN —Slavery can only exist by virtue of municipal law; and there is no law for it in the territories and no power to enact

one. Congress can establish or legalize slavery nowhere, but is bound to prohibit it in, or exclude it from any and every Federal Territory whenever and wherever there shall be necessity for such exclusion or prohibition.

The four political parties were now ready for the business of the campaign, and never before this time, had there been a canvass carried through with anything like the force and determination by the leaders of all the parties. Mass meetings and pole raisings were held in every city, town and village, throughout the whole country, where speakers extolled the good things of their own party, and explained and derided what they called the bad things of the other parties; such great interest and excitement prevailed as had never before been reached.

The election was held November 6th, 1860, with the result as follows: Lincoln 1,857,610 votes; Douglas received 1,365,976, votes; Breckenridge received 847,951 votes; Bell received 590,631. Total 4,662,168.

In the Electoral College, Lincoln received 180 votes; Breckenridge received 72 votes; Bell received 39 votes; Douglas received 12 votes. Total 303., which gave Lincoln a majority of 57 over all others.

While Lincoln did not have a majority of all the votes cast at the election, he received a majority of fifty-seven of the Presidential Electors and was elected President.

In the election of 1856, Buchanan received 1,838,169 votes; Fremont received 1,341,264 votes; Fillmore received 874,534 votes. Total 4,053,967.

In the Electoral College, Buchanan had 174 votes; Fremont had 114; Fillmore 0. Total 228.

While Buchanan in 1856 did not have a majority of all the votes cast at the election, he received a majority of sixty of the Presidential Electors and was elected President.

The result of the election of 1860 was not at all pleasing to the slave holders, and the southern leaders began at once to carry out their often repeated threat to dissolve the Union. The Legislature of South Carolina on November 10th, 1860, five days after the election issued a call for a State Convention to meet on December 17th, and on December 20th, the Convention by unanimous vote, declared that, "the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States under the name of the United States is hereby dissolved" and gave as the reason that fourteen states had failed to fulfill their Constitutional obligations.

This act of South Carolina was followed by other Southern States which passed Secession Ordinances as follows: Mississippi, January 8th, 1861; Florida, January 11th, 1861; Georgia, January

19th, 1861; Louisiana, January 26th, 1861, Texas, February 1st, 1861; Virginia, April 25th, 1861; Arkansas, May 6th, 1861; North Carolina, May 20th, 1861; Tennessee, June 8th, 1861.

The reason given by these states was the same as that given by South Carolina with the addition that "these fourteen states had elected a man to the high office of President of the United States whose opinions and purposes were hostile to slavery."

On February 4th, 1861, delegates from the States that had at that date seceded met at Montgomery, Alabama, to form a new government. This Congress, on February 18th, adopted a Constitution with the title "Confederate States of America," elected and inaugurated Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, and Alexander H. Stephens, of Alabama for President and Vice-president.

The seceded States immediately took action to prepare for the coming contest of arms. The Georgia Legislature passed a bill appropriating \$1,000,000 to arm and equip the state. The South had seized forts, arsenals, ships and munitions of war, the United States mint at New Orleans, with \$500,000 in money, and other public property there, said to amount to about \$4,000,000; and all public property in the seceded states that they could reach.

The members of both houses of Congress from these states generally left soon after their states passed their secession ordinances.

John B. Floyd, President Buchanan's Secretary of War, had sent all the munitions of war that he could well reach in the North to southern forts, most of the regular army being sent to Texas, and the ships of the navy being in the South or absent at foreign stations, everything being ready to their hand; Floyd resigned December 29th, 1860 and left Washington for the South.

During the night of December 26th, 1860, Major Anderson moved his handful of United States troops from Fort Moultrie in Charleston harbor to Fort Sumter.

On January 21st, 1861, most of the Southern members of Congress having left, Kansas with a population of 107,000, by a vote in the Senate of 36 to 16, and in the House a few days later by a vote of 119 to 42, was admitted with a Free State Constitution as a member of the Union.

All through the South a secret order known as the "Knights of the Golden Circle," was being organized and the lodges were extending through the South and into the Free States. All members were sworn to fidelity to southern rights and slavery protection.

Great efforts were made by the leaders of all parties in the North by Conventions and petitions to Congress to amend the Constitution of the United States so as to satisfy the South on the



slavery question; but no good resulted as the southern leaders absolutely refused to accept any concessions.

President-elect Lincoln arrived in Washington February 24th, 1861, at 6 o'clock a. m., by special train from Philadelphia. He was inaugurated Monday, March 4th, 1861. In his inaugural address he said in part, "That no state upon its own motion can lawfully get out of the Union; that resolves and ordinances to that effect are legally void; and that acts of violence within any state or states against the authority of the United States are insurrectionary or revolutionary according to circumstances.

I therefore consider that in view of the Constitution and laws, the Union is unbroken and to the extent of my ability, I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union shall be faithfully executed in all the States.

"I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only as the declared purpose of the Union; that it will constitutionally defend and maintain itself.

"In doing this there need be no bloodshed nor violence, and there shall be none unless it is forced upon the national authority. In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors."

The Confederates took this as a declaration of war, and they hastened their preparations for the coming contest.

The address greatly united the people of the North.

Major Anderson had for fifteen weeks been shut up in Fort Sumter, by the rebels, when on April 12th, 1861, at 4.30 o'clock in the morning, the rebel batteries under command of General Beauregard opened fire on the fort; and this commenced the war of the Slave Holders' Rebellion.

It is an old saying, "that whom the Gods would destroy, they first make mad," and it proved true in the slavery issue. The pro-slavery leaders were mad because their purpose to gain and hold political power was going from them. They were mad in their determination for slavery extension and protection; mad in their murderous and treasonable course to compel Kansas to become a Slave State; mad in their nominating conventions and through the campaign of 1860; mad because of the results of the election; mad in their secession of States, and in forming a Confederacy to destroy the Union; mad in commencing the war; for, by the war which they thus inaugurated, slavery, their pet institution was to be destroyed; and with slavery gone, their power to control the United States Government, by and through that institution was also gone—lost forever.

## CHAPTER XV.

### TOWN OF ELMA 1866 TO 1884.

For a statement of officers elected at the town meetings since the town was organized, and for the years for which this history is to continue, see Chapter XXI.

For a table of assessments of personal and real property, the equilized valuation as fixed by the Board of Supervisors, the town expenses for each year as audited by the Town Board, the expense for roads and bridges and taxes of the town for each year since the town was organized and for the years for which this history is to continue, see Chapter XXI.

For alphabetical lists of Marriages and deaths, of some of the residents of the Town of Elma to 1900, see Chapters XVIII and XIX.

For a statement of the postoffices of the town and the dates of their being established, with the names of the persons appointed as postmaster with the year of their appointment, see Chapter XXI.

For a statement of the organizing of the different churches, the erection of their houses of worship, and their Sunday Schools, etc., see Chapter XXI.

For a table of the United States Census, and the State of New York separate statement of the census of the population of the Town of Elma, 1860, to 1900, see Chapter XXI.

### 1866.

John Kihm came to East Elma and was blacksmith in the shop at the east end of the bridge in 1866.

On January 1st, 1866, Lewis Northrup made a New Year's present to his son, Eli B. Northrup, of the sawmill and millyard on the north side of the Cazenove Creek at Spring Brook; and that year Eli Northrup overhauled and remodeled the mill and put in a large circular saw.

Henry Klehm moved on to the south half of Lot 53, on the west side of the Bowen Road, in the spring of 1866.

The Schultz Steam Sawmill was built on Pond Brook, north of the Jamison Road, and west of the Schultz Road, on Lot 42, in the summer of 1866, and for a few years it was run, was a great

help to the owners of near-by lands, as it enabled them more readily to get the timber into lumber and into the Buffalo market.

In the summer of this year, Ellery S. Allen and his brothers, David and Anthony, Jr., came to East Elma from Saratoga County, and bought of Z. A. Hemstreet the sawmill and gristmill property at the west end of Lot 10, about twenty acres, besides other lands in the near vicinity. This company, known as "The Allen Brothers operated the sawmill and commenced to alter the gristmill building into a woolen factory, thus adding a new industry to East Elma. The gristmill building had never been finished and the machinery never put in and so had never been used as a gristmill.

Jacob Mohn and Jacob Koch came into the town and with their families settled in Blossom.

Hermon Hesse came from Germany in the spring of 1866, and worked for Samuel Green in the Chair factory on Pond Brook in Elma Village.

Albert Morris, the three-year-old son of William Morris was killed while playing with several other boys on the bridge over the Creek on the Aurora plank road, south of the Mouse Nest tavern, by the team and wagon driven by a Mr. Morey of Holland, who was returning from Buffalo, and who did not see the little boy. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. — Sanford of East Aurora, and the burial in the Spring Brook cemetery.

John Luders bought of Hiram Harris the north half of Lot 40, in the Aurora part of the town and on the west side of the Schultz Road. Deed dated December 12th, 1866, recorded in Liber 261, on page 349.

John Cook bought of John Luders the east part of Lot 45, of the Lancaster part of Elma. Deed dated December 17th, 1866; recorded in Liber 273, page 106.

During the spring and early part of the summer of this year there had been several meetings held in different parts of the town to talk up the project of a railroad across the town and to ascertain if the people would subscribe for any of the stock of the said railroad.

Mr. William Wallace, Engineer and Superintendent of the Attica and Buffalo Railroad, when completed in 1843, and who had been the prime mover in the survey and construction of the Buffalo, Brantford and Goderich Railway in 1851 to 1858, was in 1866, working to get a railroad from Buffalo to the coal fields in Pennsylvania, the objective point being Emporium in Pennsylvania.

On February 4th, 1865, a company was organized as the Buffalo and Washington Railroad Company and was soon consolidated with the Buffalo and Allegany Valley Railroad Company, and other railroad companies, all to be under the name of the Buffalo

and Washington Company, which was in a little time changed to Buffalo, New York and Philadelphia, and still later, to Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad.

.It was this proposed road that Mr. Wallace was so much interested in getting built that he went through on the proposed line, holding meetings in all the towns to see what encouragement the people would render towards the building of the road, and some of these meetings were held in this town as above noted. He met with such success in the towns and in Buffalo, that in August 1866, he had the line surveyed from Buffalo to the Transit, the west line of this town. He then engaged Warren Jackman to survey the line from the Transit through the town of Elma and to connect with the survey as made by Buffalo and Allegany Valley Railroad Company on Lot 45, in Aurora part of Elma, where that company had cut down a few trees, indicating the line of their survey, and from that point, on the line of this old survey across the balance of the town of Elma. The directions given by Mr. Wallace to Jackman were "to put in as flat a curve as possible, at the crossing of the Bowen Road, and to keep off the lands of Eron Woodard," as Woodard had absolutely refused to allow the railroad to cross any of his land.

The line as surveyed across the town of Elma was nearly all the way through the unbroken forest, only for a short distance, near the west line of the town, and occasionally through a small chopping was there any cleared land along the line as surveyed by Jackman and his corps of helpers, in October, 1866.

The levels were taken, and profile maps were made that fall, and the road was built on that line the next year from Buffalo to East Aurora.

Isaac Gail's store at East Elma was closed in the fall of 1866.

#### 1867.

February, 1867, opened with two to three feet of snow on the level, and with cold weather which continued until the weather moderated on the 10th, and the thaw continued on 11th and 12th, followed on 13th by a heavy rain which took off most of the remaining snow. This caused a great flood and the breaking up of the 12-inch ice in the Big Buffalo and Cazenove Creeks and other streams.

An ice dam was formed in the Big Buffalo Creek, three-quarters of a mile below Elma Village, which caused the water and running ice to set back and form a lake from the ice dam to Hurd & Briggs' milldam, half a mile above Elma Village; and from Hurd & Briggs' sawmill to the high bank south of the creek, the water being from



two to six feet deep and all filled with ice. In main Street, in Elma Village, the ice was piled four to eight feet high, fences, lumber and small buildings being carried away by the flood.

During the night of the 14th, the ice dam gave away, and in the morning of 15th the water had drained off, and before night a track had been cleared in the road, so that teams could go across the flats between the walls of ice.

The Winspear bridge was carried off by this freshet, and was replaced with a lattice bridge during the summer, at a cost to the town of \$925.00.

The Blossom bridge was damaged so that the repairs cost the town \$450.

The Northrup bridge was damaged and was repaired at a cost of \$342.

Many small bridges, culverts, and sluices, were carried away and destroyed which, with the loss and damage to the large bridges, made a heavy road and bridge account for the town to meet.

Joseph C. Standart bought of Stephen Markham, the house, lot and sawmill, on Lots 58 and 59 in the Lancaster part of Elma, on the east side of the Bowen Road, the deed dated February 13th, 1867, recorded in Liber 288, page 328.

Warren Jackman sold to Wilbor B. Briggs, March 7th, 1867, the house and lot in Elma Village on the west side of Main Street and south of the millrace and on March 21st, Jackman moved to Youngstown, Niagara Co., after residing here sixteen years.

In the spring of this year, John Garby bought and moved on to fifty acres of central part of Lot 60, on the west side of Bowen Road.

Harvey C. Palmer and family moved from Saratoga County in April, 1867, to East Elma, where he worked for Allen Brothers on and in the woolen mill, in altering the gristmill building, and putting in the machinery, the whole being completed and in successful operation before the close of the year. It was called "The Niagara Woolen Mills."

The steam shinglemill at East Elma, owned by Munger and Crane, burned July 4th, 1867, and was immediately rebuilt.

Hattie E. Davis, eleven year old, daughter of Wm. H. Davis, who resided on the Northrup Road on Lot 101 and Nellie E. Wallis, the nine year old daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Wm. D. Wallis, who resided on the Northrup Road southwest from Spring Brook, on Lot 35 of the Mile Strip, were both drowned on the afternoon of July 24th, 1867, in the "Devil's Hole" in the Cazenove Creek. This hole was formed in the bed of the creek by the rapid flow of the water at the bend of the creek and at that time was about forty feet in length, up and down the creek, and about twenty feet wide and about seven feet deep. It was supposed that the girls while

wading in the shallow water along the shore without knowing of the hole stepped or fell into it and both were drowned.

A private cemetery on the Rice Road and north of Lot 66, known as the Tillou cemetery, had been used for several years when on September 30th, 1867, it was organized under the State cemetery laws as the "Union Cemetery of Spring Brook." It is generally known as the Tillou Cemetery.

Stephen Northrup bought of Geo. H. Bristol the store and tannery lot in Spring Brook; deed dated October 22d, 1867, recorded in Liber 271, page 440. He put in a stock of new goods; was appointed Postmaster of the Spring Brook Postoffice by President Johnson.

The survey of a line for a railroad from Buffalo to East Aurora, the levels and maps having been completed in the fall of 1866 and the letting of the contract in the spring of 1867, to build the road, this being a part of the proposed Buffalo and Washington Railroad from Buffalo to Emporium, made the building of the road to the coal fields and lumber region of Pennsylvania a sure thing. This section of eighteen miles from Buffalo to Aurora was built and accepted by the Company, December 22d, and an excursion train between these places, on Wednesday, December 25th, (opening day) was the cause of great rejoicing with all the people along the line of the road.

This part of the road was operated for several years before the road was completed to Emporium, and during these years vast quantities of lumber and wood were sent by the railroad to Buffalo. At this time, 1867, not more than half of the timber had been taken from the land in the Town of Elma, and the prospect of the railroad being soon built to the Pennsylvania lumber and coal region, caused the owners of timber lands in Elma, to rush their wood and lumber into the Buffalo market, before lumber and coal should be brought from Pennsylvania, as then they thought, prices would go down with a crash. So every effort was put forth by the Elma people to get their lands cleared before the road should be completed.

The building of the road beyond Aurora was delayed several years; but was completed to Olean in July, 1872, and opened to Emporium on January 1st, 1873.

#### 1868.

Thomas Hines bought and moved on to the southwest part of Lot 39, Aurora part of Elma, between the Williams Road and the Railroad, April 14th, 1868.

James T. Hurd bought of Charles A. Dutton eleven and one-quarter acres of land, being the northwest part of Lot 59, Lancaster part of Elma, on west side of the Bowen Road, the deed dated April 16th, 1868, recorded in Liber 354 page 93.

John Hicks was the blacksmith at East Elma in 1868.

Clark W. Hurd and family moved to Batavia this spring, having rented their Elma property to their sons, Dennis and Charles.

Rev. George W. McPherson was sent by the Methodist Episcopal Conference to the Elma Village Methodist Episcopal Church.

George W. Hatch bought the three-quarter acre lot at East Elma on the northeast corner of Jamison and Thompson Roads, and during the summer of 1868 built a store on the lot.

At the Presidential Election held November 3d, 1868, 569 votes were polled in the town. The total popular vote given to U. S. Grant, the Republican candidate was 3,015,071. The Electoral College gave 214 votes, and 80 votes to Horatio Seymour, the Democratic candidate.

During this year several more families moved into the town, many of them buying parts of lots, some buying only a few acres.

The railroad having been built and in successful operation, greatly increased the facility of getting to Buffalo for the people and was convenient for the sending of wood and lumber to market by the carload.

The railroad company planned for three stations in the town, one at their crossing of the Pound Road, north from Spring Brook, one at their crossing of the Bowen and Woodard Roads, and one at their crossing of the Jamison Road.

A temporary building was put up for the Spring Brook station; a rough board shanty with board roof was erected as the Elma depot, the company refusing to use the comfortable building, 18 x 30 feet, that the Elma people had built, and the board shanty was used for several years, a cold place in winter and wet inside when it rained as the roof leaked badly, the company refusing to put up a better building until complaints from the people reached the railroad Commissioners, who, on visiting the place in 1878, notified the company that unless they immediately put up a new and comfortable building they, the Commissioners, would build a depot at the expense of the railroad company. This order ended the matter, as the railroad company immediately erected a comfortable depot building on the west side of the railroad and on the north side of the Woodard Road. At the Jamison Road, the railroad business was done in Fred. Wilting's building on the west side of the railroad track and on the north side of the Jamison Road, E. Bleeck acting as the railroad agent.

By deed dated April 2d, 1869, in the settlement of the estate of Lewis M. Bullis, Phoebe Bullis conveyed to Orson S. Bullis the Bullis sawmill and about twelve acres of land, and on the same date Frank Bullis received deed for Lots 22, 23 and 10 acres of Lot 29.

The Union Church Society, of Spring Brook, was organized early in January, 1869. David J. Morris conveyed the lot on which the the church building stood, on the north side of the Plank Road and near the west end of Lot 75 to the society, the deed being dated January 18th, 1869; recorded in Liber 427, page 518.

William H. Bancroft sold to Jacob Jerge the house and blacksmith shop lot, in Elma Village on the west side of the Bowen Road, April 1st, 1869. After Casper Jerge's death, March 16th, Jacob had the entire business of the brothers.

On April 5th, Bancroft bought of Clement Peek, the northwest part of Lot 15 of the Mile Strip at the southwest corner of the Billington and Williams Roads, containing forty-eight acres, subject to the right for schoolhouse on the northeast corner so long as needed for public school purposes; the deed dated April 5th, 1869, recorded in Liber 285, page 318. Bancroft in a few days moved from Elma Village on to the Mile Strip.

Timothy Clifford sold to Michael Beck, April 22d, 1869, the house and lot on Lot 84, and blacksmith shop and Lot on the west end of Lot 75 in Spring Brook; when Clifford bought of John Miller twenty-five acres from the south end of Lot 38, on the northeast corner of Jamison and Schultz Roads; deed dated March 2d, 1870. Clifford built a blacksmith shop near his southwest corner, which he carried on for twenty years.

James Clark was appointed Postmaster of the Elma Postoffice in 1869, and moved the office from Standart's on Bullis Road, to Markham's store with Markham as deputy.

William Bell, who lived on Lot 21 of the Mile Strip, on the west side of Bowen Road, committed suicide in 1869, by shooting himself with a pistol; cause: financial trouble, he, while insurance agent having become considerable short in making his returns.

At the General Election, November 2d, 1869, 407 votes were polled.

#### 1870-1871.

On January 3d, 1870, Mr. and Mrs. William Standard celebrated their golden wedding, at their home south of Elma Village. The many friends present with their gifts, testified their respect for the Standart family.



Alonzo C. Bancroft, in the spring of 1870, sold part of his personal property and with his family moved to Wisconsin.

For the United States Census for 1870, see Chapter XXI.

Louis Kleberg was appointed Postmaster of Blossom Postoffice in 1870.

The East Elma Postoffice was re-established in 1870, with George W. Hatch as Postmaster.

Williams' store on the southeast corner of the Jamison and Hemstreet Roads in East Elma burned in the winter of 1870 and 1871.

Horace Kyser's steam mill in Spring Brook, built in 1862, burned in the fall of 1870.

Lyman K. Bass, November 15th, 1870, bought of Orson S. Bullis, the Bullis sawmill with other lands. Bass sold same to Henry C. Sargent and later Sargent took down the mill and sold the sawmill lot to Henry Cole.

#### 1871.

John Shay was the East Elma blacksmith in 1871.

■ Mrs. James Dunbar bought the McFee property across the road from the Catholic church in Spring Brook in the spring of 1871.

The Bridge across the big Buffalo Creek in Elma Village gave out and two new stone abutments were required for an iron bridge built by the Ohio Bridge Company, at a cost of \$3789.89.

The Northrup bridge across the Cazenove Creek at Spring Brook was repaired at a cost of \$310.

The Standart bridge was repaired at a cost of \$193.91.

Christopher Peek sold his steam sawmill on Pond Brook to a Mr. Wood, who took down the mill and moved it to Sardinia.

This year there were many changes and transfers of real property made in the town, the descriptions of which must be passed by. The forest is fast disappearing.

At the General Election November 7th, 1871, 406 votes were polled.

#### 1872.

Thomas Schneider was the blacksmith at East Elma this year.

George Helfter and Jacob Jerge form a partnership as blacksmiths in Elma Village in April.

A fire company of thirty-six members was organized in Blossom this year.

Clark W. Hurd and family moved to Elma from Batavia, taking possession of their old residence and property.

In the spring of 1872, the Allen Brothers dissolved their partnership and made a division of their property at East Elma and vicinity. Ellery S. Allen took the woolen factory and business with sixteen and two-thirds acres of land; Anthony Allen, Jr., took the sawmill and two acres of land, and David Allen had certain other real estate.

Joseph Wagner bought of Joachin Wagner that part of Lot 39 west of the railroad and north of Thomas Hines on the east side of the Williams Road. Deed August 3d, 1872, recorded in Liber 323, page 44.

A Lutheran church, 21 x 30 feet was built on Lot 40, on the north side of the Woodard Road, in the summer of 1872. Christian Stolle was the contractor and builder. The church cemetery is on the north part of the church lot.

Horace Kyser in the summer of 1872 built a steam sawmill and gristmill on the ground occupied by his sawmill which burned in 1870.

Stephen Northrup's store in Spring Brook burned in August. The postoffice matters and most of the goods were saved and moved into Esquire Ward's office. Northrup immediately built a brick store which was finished, furnished, and occupied by him in November of that year.

The Buffalo and Washington Railroad was completed to Olean in July, 1872.

At the Presidential Election, November 5th, 1872, 456 votes were cast. The popular vote to General U. S. Grant was 3,579,-070. At the Electoral College, he received 292 votes and as Horace Greely, the Democratic candidate died before the meeting of the Presidential Electors, the Democratic Electors were divided as follows: For Thomas A. Hendricks, 42; for B. Gratz Brown, 18; for Horace Greely, 3; for Charles A. Jenks, 2; for David Davis, 1. Total 66.

The German Evangelical Society built a church on west part of Lot 75 on the north side of the Plank Road, in Spring Brook, in the summer of 1872, dedicated November 24th, 1872.

### 1873.

A Lutheran Society was organized in Blossom Village and a church building erected across the street from the German Evangelical church.

Alonzo C. Bancroft came back from Wisconsin with his family in the early spring of 1873 and moved into Mrs. Clark's house across the street from the church in Elma village.

The Standart bridge, three-quarters of a mile below Elma Village, went out with the spring freshet, and the voters at the town meeting, March 4th, 1873, refused by vote to rebuild the bridge.

There had for several years been great dissatisfaction as to that part of the Stolle Road along the west line of Lot 12, south from Bullis Road. The Commissioners of Highways finally made a settlement with the owners of land by paying Philip Stitz \$125; Henry C. Sargent \$100; Wm. Reuther \$100; and John Heitman \$15. Total \$340.

The milldam built by Northrup & Baker in 1844 was replaced by Eli Northrup who built a stone dam in its place in the summer of 1873.

The house that Clark W. Hurd built in 1846 on the east side of the Bowen Road, north of Hurd & Briggs sawmill in Elma Village, was moved by Hurd in the spring of 1873 to the lot next north of the church, and the Hurd family lived in that house while Hurd was preparing plans and building a large new house on the old site. The new house was raised in September of that year, but was not finished and occupied until 1874.

The Buffalo and Washington Railroad was completed and opened for traffic to Emporium on July 1st, 1873.

For the last five years, the owners of timber lands in the Town of Elma had been working hard to get their wood and lumber into Buffalo before this railroad should be completed to the coal and timber lands of Pennsylvania, fearing that when the railroad should commence to bring coal and lumber, their prices would go down, and so the rush was continued. Every sawmill had been worked to its full capacity and the greatly diminished amount of timber remaining in the town showed that there had been very much hard work done and that a very few more years of such work would see the end of hauling wood and lumber to Buffalo.

Occasionally, a sawmill located on a small stream where the timber was nearly gone, would be placed on the retired list or taken down; and the residents of the town were gradually changing business from lumbermen and woodchoppers to farmers.

To show the interest the first settlers in the new town took in school matters, an account will be given here of the building of the first schoolhouse in Spring Brook and the efforts made by some of the residents for additional room when the first building had become too small to accommodate all of the children of that school district. The records of the Spring Brook school district have been well and continuously kept from the first meeting to organize a school district and are, therefore, evidence that must stand.

In nearly every school district in the town, the records have been lost, so that they could not be obtained. As a rule, the building

of the first schoolhouse in a neighborhood or school district would meet with little or no opposition, but when a move was made for an addition or for a new house, the opposition would be out in full force. So the experience of Spring Brook is no exception but proof of the rule.

From the reported proceedings of the Spring Brook school district, viz.:

After one or two preliminary meetings to organize a school district, at a meeting held on April 24th and April 30th and May 2d, 1846, it was decided to build a schoolhouse as per the following contract: "The building to be 20 x 24 feet with 11 feet hemlock plank one and one-half inches thick, lined with one one-half inch hemlock plank five or six inches wide. Floor of one and one-quarter inch seasoned ash, jointed and lined; eight windows, each fifteen lights of 8 x 10 glass; two one and one-half inch four panel doors, one outside six panel two inch door; lathed and plastered inside and six double and two single desks; roof to be covered with good pine shingles; outside to be finished with good sound pine and bold cornice, to be painted with English Venetian trimmed with white, to be built on a good stone wall two feet high and to be ready for school by June 1st and to be completed by November 15th next. Contract price, \$254."

Many families were moving into Spring Brook and immediate vicinity, so the schoolhouse soon proved to be too small to accommodate all the children in the neighborhood who wanted to attend the school.

At the Annual meeting held on October 5th., 1852, a resolution was passed and adopted to build an addition to the schoolhouse. Meeting adjourned for one week.

October 12th, 1852, adjourned meeting; *Resolved*, That we build an addition to this schoolhouse, so we can have two school-rooms. Carried. Adjourned to October 16th, at 1 o'clock p. m.

October 16th, 1852. Adjourned meeting; *Resolved*, that we rescind the resolution to build an addition to the schoolhouse. Carried.

October 25th, 1852. Special meeting. *Resolved* that we raise \$150.00 by tax, to build an addition to the schoolhouse. Carried forty-four to forty-two."

(As the vote was so nearly equal, the names of the persons voting for and against the resolution are here given).

Voting for the tax: John B. Bristol, Charles M. Whitney, C. S. Mariam, William Jones, C. S. Spencer, Cornelius Van Brocklin, David J. Morris, Joseph Stafford, S. Eddy, Amos D. Waters, S. Wait, H. Van Antwerpt, John Van Antwerpt, James M. Taylor, Jonathan Johnson, James Dunbar, William Hunt, N. Wertman,



Joseph Morton, H. S. Larned, Nehemiah Graves, James H. Ward, J. J. French, F. S. Baker, J. H. Letson, Steadly Stafford, A. W. Palmer, John Morris, Edward Good, Elias Weed, Benjamin Richman, Nehemiah Cobb, Wyvell Todd, John Todd, John Skidmore, William Morris, L. F. Morris, Daniel W. Wilkins, Fisher Ames, John Van Antwerp, Ferris Palmer, George Good, Alonzo Doolittle, Total forty-four.

Voting against the tax: Isaac Tillou, Joseph Grace, Zebina Lee, Israel Morey, John Bohan, James Conley, Samuel Dans, Charles Rogers, Moses Baker, James Doman, John McGivern, Alfred Money, Thomas Corrigan, Amos Dodge, Edward Hill, Melvin Shaw, Lyman Parker, S. Hamlin, Neal McHugh, Zenas M. Cobb, William J. Chadderton, Barney Conley, Abraham Morton, James Tillou, Patrick McCormick, Wallace Fones, John McFee, R. J. Jackson, J. H. Gregory, Thomas O'Flannigan, Joseph Tillou, ——— Colby, A. Morrisson, L. G. Northrup, William White, Patrick Phalan, B. J. Smith, John Mitchell, Horace Kyser, T. Fagan, Isaac Hall, Cyrus Soddy. Total 42. Majority for the tax, two."

These eighty-six persons, voters at the school meeting in October 1852, besides others, probably who were not voters, or who did not attend the meeting, and who were residents of the Spring Brook school district, will show how rapidly that part of the town had become settled in the eight years since Northrup and Baker built the first sawmill and millhouse in October, 1844.

The addition to the schoolhouse above mentioned, was never built and the question of the addition was freely discussed in the school district. No further action was had until a special school meeting was called for January 5th, 1863.

At this special meeting a resolution was passed to build an addition twenty-four feet square. Adjourned for two weeks.

"January 19th, 1863.—Adjourned meeting. *Resolved*, that we rescind the proceedings of the last meeting so far as related to building an addition to the schoolhouse. Carried.

*Resolved*, that we build a new schoolhouse in the center of the lot. Carried.

*Resolved*, that we raise \$400.00 to build the new house. Carried."

Two plans for the new house were presented, called the Morris plan and the Grace plan.

"By a vote, the Morris plan was adopted, fifteen to twelve. March 2d, 1863, special meeting; adjourned for one week because of non-attendance of part of the voters.

March 9th, 1863. The adjourned meeting voted to rescind the proceedings of the meeting of January 19th, to raise \$400.00 to build a new house. Carried.

*Resolved*, that we raise \$500.00 to build the new schoolhouse. Carried."

There was no new schoolhouse built under these resolutions, and as there were more children in the district than the old house could accommodate, rooms had to be hired from time to time, in which a second school could be kept. Matters continued to run in that way until at a special meeting held on January 6th, 1870, a resolution was presented to levy a tax to raise \$2,500 or so much as may be necessary to build a new schoolhouse 26x40, two stories high.

The question was divided and the vote to build a new schoolhouse was lost by twenty-eight to eighteen.

The building of a new schoolhouse was again taken up at a special meeting called for August 7th, 1872, at which a motion was carried to build a new schoolhouse.

A motion to reconsider was carried immediately, and a motion was carried to not build a new schoolhouse. A motion was carried that we repair the old house. A motion was carried to raise \$1,000 for the repairs. A motion was carried that the \$1,000 be raised in two installments, \$500.00 for the first and as much as may be necessary to complete the house for the second.

August 8th, 1872, annual meeting. Motion made and carried that we rescind the movements of all special meetings." This action put a stop to any repairs of the old house.

"January 30th, 1873. Special meeting for building a new schoolhouse or to repair the old house.

Motion made and carried that a committee of seven be appointed to prepare a plan for a new schoolhouse and report at a future meeting.

Messrs Zenas M. Cobb, O. J. Wannemacher and Patrick Donahue, the trustees, with Lewis Northrup, William Lockwood, Mr. Walker and Horace Kyser were the committee.

The meeting was then adjourned to February 5th, 1873. February 5th, adjourned meeting. The above committee submitted a plan for a new schoolhouse to be 24x30.

This plan was adopted by a vote of the meeting, and on motion, the trustees were appointed a building committee.

Motion made and carried that the trustees be authorized to levy a tax of \$1,000, and apply the same in the construction of the new house.

October 6th, 1873. Special meeting to consider the matter of furnishing the new house, and vote a tax to pay the indebtedness of the district, and to sell the old house. Motion made and carried to raise by tax \$235.00 to pay balance due to Samuel Hoyt on contract to build the new schoolhouse. Motion made and carried to

raise by tax \$280.00 to furnish the new house. Motion made and carried to sell the old house."

The old house was then sold to Michael Beck for \$25.00 and was moved by Beck to the side of the old blacksmith shop on the west end of Lot 75, and has since been used as a blacksmith shop.

"October 14th, 1873, annual meeting. Motion made and carried that the trustees be directed to repair the woodhouse and use the money received for the sale of the old house as far as it goes, and levy a tax for the balance."

The long controversy as to building an addition to the old schoolhouse, or to build a new house was now settled, and in 1873, the Spring Brook district has the best schoolhouse in the town of Elma.

At the general election, November 4th, 1873, 295 votes were polled in the town.

#### 1874.

Alonzo C. Bancroft bought of J. B. Briggs in the spring of 1874, the house and one and one-fourth acre lot in Elma Village on the west side of the Bowen Road and north bank of the Creek.

The high water in the Big Buffalo Creek having washed away the Thompson Road north of the Bodimer house on Lot 9, the Commissioners of Highways of the Town caused a new survey to be made and then bought of the Bodimer heirs the land for the new road, and at the town meeting held on March 3d, 1874, they applied to voters of the town to raise \$200.00 to pay for the land so taken and this \$200.00 was voted to be raised by tax.

The Eleazer Bancroft sawmill which was built in 1854 near the mouth of Pond Brook in Elma Village gave out, and as Bancroft had about used up his timber, the mill was not repaired and was never used after 1874. C. W. Hurd moved into his new house in Elma Village in the fall of 1874. John Collins bought of Samuel Hoyt the store in Spring Brook at the southeast corner of the Plank and Northrup Roads, in the spring of 1874.

John Standart, who lived in a house on the southwest corner of Lot 9, on the north side of the Clinton Street Road, on July 7th, 1874, shot his wife with a revolver and then cut his own throat with a razor.

The bridge over Pond Brook on the Chair Factory Road having broken down, the contract to build a new bridge and two new stone abutments was let to Hurd & Briggs for \$1,200. The bridge and abutments were built in the summer of 1874.

Andrew Schefferstein bought of C. W. Hurd, twenty-one acres of northwest part of Lot 60, on the south side of the Bullis Road. Deed dated August 6th, 1874, recorded in Liber 346, Page 340.

1874.

The old Catholic church building in Spring Brook had become too small to accommodate the society, so that building was moved from the corner of the Plank and Rice Roads in Spring Brook, to the east end of their lot, to be used later as a barn for their parsonage, and a second church was built on the old site in the summer of 1874. Just after the frame of the building was raised, there came a very high wind which leveled the frame to the ground. It was immediately raised again and finished and occupied that fall.

A German Evangelical church was built on the south side of the Rice Road and north end of Lot 53 in the summer of 1874.

At the general election on November 3d, 1874, 368 votes were polled.

1875.

February 26th, 1875, George Helfter bought of Clark W. Hurd, one-half acre of land on southeast corner of the Bowen and Clinton Street Roads, built a shop and commenced blacksmith work there.

George Kelgus bought of Louis Funke, part of Lot 60, on the west side of the Bowen Road, and between the hotel property and John Garby.

The inhabitants had increased so rapidly in the last few years in the Rice school district that the schoolhouse on the northwest corner of the Bowen and Rice Roads did not accommodate the children of the district. At the annual school meeting an effort was made to have a new house built. While the owners of a majority of the property in the district wanted a new house, there was the opposition generally found and enough of the residents of the district voted "no" to kill the project; and the prospect was that the old house would continue, but somehow along in the night, the schoolhouse took fire and burned down.

A special meeting was called and the motion to build a new house was carried. The new house was to be ready for the opening of school the next spring. The trustees hired the German church, fifty rods west, for the winter school.

Three hundred and eighty-nine votes were polled at the election held November 2d, 1875.

1876.

In April, 1876, Harvey C. Palmer bought the goods in the store at East Elma. The Lutheran church at Blossom burned this year.

The year 1876, being the one hundredth anniversary of the United States as a Nation, dating from the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a Centennial Exposition was held in Philadelphia



in honor of that event and many residents of the town of Elma, as well as residents of almost every town, village and city in the United States, made the pilgrimage to Philadelphia; and on their return to their homes reported the Exposition to be the biggest thing on the earth. Every crow thinks her young the whitest of all the birds, and every mother thinks her babe the handsomest babe in the world, and this being *our* Exposition, it is, of course, a great way ahead of anything of the kind that was ever held anywhere.

At the Presidential election held November 7th, 1876, 512 votes were polled in the town. Rutherford B. Hayes' popular vote was 4,033,050.

The Electoral College gave R. B. Hayes 185 votes; to Samuel J. Tilden, 184 votes.

The young People's Association of Elma Village was organized by Rev. George P. Harris in the fall of 1876.

#### 1877.

Two stone abutments for the Northrup bridge were built in the summer of 1877 which cost the town \$210.00. The Bullis bridge was repaired this year at a cost of \$639.00.

Harvey J. Hurd was elected to the Assembly at the November election. At the election held November 6th, 478 votes were cast in the town.

John G. Fisher bought of Stephen Northrup the brick store in Spring Brook, deed November 12th, 1877, recorded in Liber 376, Page 20. Fisher was appointed postmaster at Spring Brook in 1880.

#### 1878.

Thomas Moore was the East Elma blacksmith this year. The Lutheran church in Blossom was rebuilt this year. Alois Dusch opened a blacksmith shop in Blossom this year.

The Elma Center postoffice was established with Eron Woodard as postmaster, April 1st, 1878.

Hugh Mullen bought the north half of Lot 2 of the Aurora part of the town on the east side of the Thompson Road, in the spring of 1862.

The Hanvey sawmill, built on a small stream on the land bought by Mullen, being out of repair, and the timber being well worked up in that vicinity, Mullen decided not to repair the mill but took it down this year.

Henry A. Wright opened a store at Elma Center in the building near the railroad depot, which the Elma people built and offered

to the railroad company for a depot in 1868, but which they refused and instead built a board shanty which is still used in 1878 while the new depot is being built.

Harrison Tillou this year bought the John McFee place in Spring Brook, across the Plank Road from the Catholic church.

Carl Manke, on April 2d, 1878, shot and killed his neighbor, John Atloff. As Atloff was returning from Buffalo on the Bullis Road, when near the northeast corner of Lot 85, Manke fired at him from behind a pile of lumber. There had been a difference between them as to a line fence.

At the election November 5th, 1878, 481 votes were polled in the town.

Harvey J. Hurd of Elma Village was the second time elected to represent this district in the Assembly.

William Edwards' blacksmith shop and residence, on the southeast corner at East Elma had been occupied but a short time when it burned in 1878.

#### 1879.

May 1st, 1879, Joseph Kratz's grocery on the northwest corner at East Elma burned.

Harvey J. Hurd was for the third time elected to the Assembly at the election held November 4th, 1879; and at this election there were 475 votes polled in the town.

#### 1880.

Cyrus S. Spencer opened a small store on the south side of the Plank Road in Spring Brook on Lot 81 in the spring of 1880.

John G. Fisher was appointed postmaster for Spring Brook in 1880. The Bullis schoolhouse being too small to accommodate the children of the district, and being in need of large repairs, the inhabitants of the district decided to build a new house. The old house was sold to Philip Stitz for \$25.00 and this year, 1880, a new house was built in its place.

The German Evangelical Society this year took down the old Ebenezer Society church and built a new church on the same site, on the north side of Main Street, in Blossom Village.

E. J. Markham, this summer built a cidermill and vinegar factory on the bank of the millrace on the west end of his lot in Elma Village.

At the Presidential election November 2d, 1880, 566 votes were cast in the town. James A. Garfield's popular vote was 4,442,050.

The Electoral College gave James A. Garfield 214 votes and W. S. Hancock 115 votes. Harvey J. Hurd was for the fourth time elected to the Assembly.

The population of the town was 2,555. (See United States census, Chapter XXI). George W. Hurd moved on to Lot 85, on the south side of Bullis Road, December 24th, 1880.

1881.

The Northrup bridge was repaired this summer at a cost to the town of \$223.46. 435 votes were cast at the election November 8th, 1881.

1882.

At the death of Lewis Northrup in April, 1882, Eli B. Northrup by the will came into possession of the gristmill, and the homestead on Lot 84, in west part of Spring Brook Village.

Jacob Miller's house, on Lot 46, on the north side of Clinton Street Road, burned in February of this year. Miller and his wife went to Blossom to attend a funeral, leaving three small children at home. While the parents were away, the house took fire, the children and part of the furniture being saved by the neighbors.

Adelbert Spencer bought his father's interest in his store in Spring Brook in the spring of 1882.

Cole & Sweet bought of John Collins, the store in Spring Brook at the corner of the Plank and Northrup Roads.

Briggs & Sweet bought of Horace Kyser the steam saw and gristmill in Spring Brook in October, 1882. 463 votes were cast in the town at the election November 7th, 1882.

Ernest Bleeck bought of Fred Wilting on December 12th, 1882, the store and saloon which Wilting had run for four or five years, on southeast corner of Lot 42, on north side of the Jamison Road.

During the last few years the owners of land in the town have been gradually closing up their wood and lumber business, and have put in their time cleaning up their farms; for on many of the farms there was not a tree of the old growth remaining, and as the timber was gone, they must engage in regular farming.

In six to ten years after the trees had been cut, most of the stumps would decay so as to be easily removed, except the pine, which being the last to decay, had to be removed by stump machines. This was quite expensive and on what was called pine lands, the cost was forty to eighty dollars per acre; but these pine stumps were utilized and put into fences, making a homely but durable fence.

1883.

On Sunday morning, February 4th, 1883, before daylight, the people of Elma Village were called from their houses by the cry of "high water coming!"

This flood in the village was caused by the previous thaw and the breaking up of the ice in the creek, and a jam or dam of ice forming in the bend of the creek near the Elma cemetery, caused the water to set back over the flats and Elma Village, the water and ice reaching nearly to Mr. J. B. Briggs' house. Never before had there been any water north of the millrace.

Mr. Erastus J. Markham who with his family occupied the store building over the race, fearing that the building would be carried away, left the store, thinking to go to C. W. Hurd's house until the water subsided. Mrs. Markham, while going north on the sidewalk, when near J. B. Briggs' south line, slipped and fell, breaking her ankle. While sitting there a few minutes, waiting for help, the water came up so as to be two feet deep where she sat. The ice in all streams in town went out during this thaw, but no great damage was done to any of the bridges in the town.

Four hundred and four votes were polled at the election November 6th, 1883. Mrs. Julia A. H. Jackman bought of Mrs. Lovina C. Markham, the house and four acre lot, being part of Lot 59 on the east side of the Bowen Road, one-fourth mile south from the Big Buffalo Creek, and one mile north from railroad station.

#### 1884.

Alexander Rush bought of Helen Ignatz, the hotel property at the southwest corner of the Bowen and Bullis Roads, being the northeast corner of Lot 60; deed April 28th, 1884, recorded in Liber 474, Page 79.

Warren Jackman moved from Youngstown on to Lot 59 on east side of Bowen Road near Elma Village April 30th, 1884.

A. M. Edwards moved from Buffalo into the Standart brick house, three-fourths of a mile south from Elma Village, May 1st, 1884.

Mrs. Caroline Thayer bought of Julia A. McFee, four and one-half acres being the Mouse Nest tavern and Lot in Spring Brook, the deed dated May 1st, 1884, recorded in Liber 391, Page 133.

"The New or Meridian Time" was adopted by the principal railroads of the United States at 12 o'clock noon, November 18th, 1883, and the trains were from that date run on that time instead of local time as heretofore.

The lines of longitude designating the time for the different stations were 75th meridian, 90th, 105, and 120th; these being respectively 5, 6, 7 and 8 hours west from Greenwich.

For seven and one-half degrees east and west they indicate the new standards of time.



The time of Philadelphia, on the 75th meridian, is used for all places between meridian of New Brunswick and Detroit, Columbus, etc.

From Detroit to central Nebraska, the time is that of St. Louis, New Orleans on the 90th meridian. From central Nebraska to western Utah, the time is that of Denver, on the 105th meridian. From Western Utah to the Pacific Ocean, the time is that of Virginia City on the 120th meridian.

Ernest Bleeck built a new store at Jamison on northeast corner of Lot 42. C. W. Hurd built a new barn 110x60 feet and moved other barns and out buildings.

The M. E. Church in Elma Village was painted this year by Clayton Standart. At the Presidential election November 4th, 591 votes were polled in the town.

Grover Cleveland's popular vote was 4,874,986.

The Electoral College gave Grover Cleveland 219 votes; gave James G. Blaine 182 votes.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### TOWN OF ELMA, 1885 TO 1900.

Harvey J. Hurd bought of J. B. Briggs on March 22d, 1885, his interest in the Hurd & Briggs sawmill property in Elma Village. The same year, Harvey J. overhauled and rebuilt the sawmill which was built by Hurd & Briggs in 1845, taking out the north saw.

After years of trying, and after several efforts had been made to have a new schoolhouse at Elma Village, with the same opposition and delay as has been given in the Spring Brook schoolhouse matter; and after the old house had become untenable and the school commissioner had threatened to withhold the public money from the district unless a new house was built, the inhabitants of the district voted to have a new house built and voted to raise \$1,600 for building and furnishing the same; and the old house was sold to Baltz Gloss for \$25.00, which seems to be the price for all old schoolhouses. The new house was built and ready for use in the fall of 1885.

The following brief statement of efforts made to have a new schoolhouse in Elma Village, is given; but as the district records from the organizing of the district to within the last few years are lost, the date of the several meetings and the exact vote on the several resolutions, for and against the building of a new house cannot be given, but the facts are as follows: At the annual meeting held in 1860, the motion was made and unanimously carried to build a new schoolhouse, and the trustees were directed to raise by tax the money to pay for the building.

The tax was made out, the warrant given to the collector, and several persons paid their tax.

About six weeks after the annual meeting, a special meeting was called at which a resolution was adopted not to build the new schoolhouse and an appeal was started and sent to the State Superintendent for his decision as to the action of the annual meeting; the claim being made that a majority of the taxpayers of the district did not vote for the resolution to build the new house and that a majority was not present at the annual meeting.

The decision of the State Superintendent was that the action of the annual meeting was legal and correct and the trustees were directed to go on with the building.

On receiving this decision, another special meeting was called at which the opposition said if the building of the new house was put off for five years they would then take hold and help build the house. And the new house was not built.

In 1865, at the end of the five years, another vote was taken at the annual meeting and the resolution to build a new schoolhouse was carried but the attendance being small and, thinking that the promise of five years before would be kept, and to give all a chance to vote, the meeting was adjourned for one week.

The attendance at the adjourned meeting was large and the motion to rescind the vote of the annual meeting was carried by a large majority.

A vote to build a vestibule to the old house and to repair the old house were both carried and there was no further move made toward a new house until the school commissioner had ordered a new house, when in the spring of 1885 at a special meeting, the money was voted as before stated.

Mr. Zina A. Hemstreet died August 5th, 1885. He had operated the Indian sawmill after the death of Leonard Hatch in 1842, was a large owner of real estate at East Elma, had been in active business there, a leading citizen in all public matters or of anything that would be a benefit or help to the people of that locality, and had been Supervisor of the town in 1860 and 1861.

Through *mismanagement* and hard luck he lost all his property.

Henry A. Wright was appointed postmaster of Elma Center postoffice in 1885, and moved the postoffice from Woodard's house to his store, near the railroad.

The summer of 1885 was very wet; twenty-four inches of rain fell in the months of May, June, July and August, making a very bad season for haying and harvesting; so that on August 31st, the greater part of the oat crop was in the fields, many pieces of grain had been spread out to dry, and before dry enough to take to the barn, another rain would come and as this weather continued, much grain was damaged.

William J. Cole was appointed postmaster at Spring Brook in the fall by President Cleveland, and moved the postoffice into Cole & Sweet's store, at the corner of the Plank and Northrup Roads. 362 votes were polled at the election November 3d, 1885. A good crop of fruit, especially apples, this year.

#### 1886.

The schoolhouse bell was hung in the belfry of the Elma Village schoolhouse January 14th, 1886.

E. J. Markham built a dwelling house on his lot on the west side of Main Street in Elma Village in the summer and fall of this year.

Frederick Gramm was appointed postmaster at Blossom by President Cleveland in the summer of 1886.

On September 17th, 1886, Mr. C. W. Hurd had arranged for a clambake, to which all his neighbors in Elma Village, and many friends from Buffalo and adjoining towns had been invited. This was to celebrate his eightieth birthday.

The guests arrived early in the forenoon; the tables and seats were placed in the yard and the tables were set with dishes and flowers. The provisions in the pit were being cooked, when about 11 o'clock it began to rain with every appearance of continuing through the day. There was a hustle among all hands to get the tables and fixtures into the house. In due time, dinner was announced and the guests showed their appreciation of the good things that had been provided for the feast. The rain continued all the afternoon, but this did not dampen nor hinder the enjoyment of all persons there. It was a very pleasant birthday party except the rainy part. It was late in the afternoon when the friends began to take their departure, wishing their octogenarian host many more birthdays.

A "Chautauqua Reading Circle" was organized at the house of J. B. Briggs with fifteen members on the evening of September 22d.

At the election, November 2d, 495 votes were polled.

The apple crop was very short this year.

#### 1887.

The Jerge Brothers (Phillip and Hermon) bought of George Helfter, the house and lot on the east side of the street nearly opposite the blacksmith shop in Elma Village, also the blacksmith shop and lot on the southeast corner of Bowen and Clinton Street Roads. The deed was dated March 14th, 1887, recorded in Liber 512, page 638.

Clark W. Hurd and wife, Dulcena, celebrated their golden wedding at their home in Elma Village on the evening of April 4th, 1887. About eighty persons were present, among them four other couples whose wedding day was April 4th.

Mr. R. P. Lee and family came from Buffalo April 23d, moving into James T. Hurd's house on the west side of the Bowen Road on Lot 59.

The steam saw and gristmill bought by Briggs & Sweet in October, 1882, in Spring Brook burned in the spring of 1887.

Alonzo C. Bancroft took down the chair factory building on Pond Brook, on the south side of the Chair Factory Road in the summer of 1887.



The Erie County Farmers' Institute held a meeting of the society in the M. E. Church in Elma Village on Saturday, June 25th of this year.

E. J. Markham moved into his new house in Elma Village, July 1st, 1887.

The M. E. Church of Elma Village was re-shingled in the summer of this year, and in the fall was re-painted on the inside and repapered above and below; new cushions for the seats and new carpets for the audience room, gallery, vestibule and stairs were placed.

The Elma Cemetery Association was organized June 11th, 1887. Myron H. Clark remodeled and put on additions to the A. C. Bancroft house, in the summer of 1887.

Warren Jackman made a map of the town of Elma this year, on which was shown every original lot and every sub-division or piece of land in the town, with the then present owner's name, the number of acres of each piece, with courses and distances of every lot line and every road in the town as surveyed. This map is in the Town Clerk's office.

The building erected by the Lutheran Society on the Woodard Road in 1872 was now too small to accommodate its large and growing congregation, and the society decided to build a new church on the same place. The old church was therefore moved to the east side of its lot to be used for a Sunday School room and a new building, 32 x 56, was built and finished in the summer and fall of 1887.

At the election on November 8th, 428 votes were polled.

The gristmill and sawmill built by the Ebenezer Society in Blossom, owned by Lewis Ott, and the bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek at Blossom, burned on the night of December 28th, 1887.

The crops in the town were generally good, *especially* good were the hay and apple crops.

Jacob Bodamer's barn on Lot 30 and west side of the Girdled Road burned with contents in September, 1887.

#### 1888.

Mrs. Adelpha C. Briggs, in the spring of 1888 bought the Eleazer Bancroft brick house and lot on Lot 58 and 63 on the west side of the Bowen Road and south side of Big Buffalo Creek.

James T. Hurd bought of A. C. Bancroft in the spring of 1888, 28 acres, being that part of Lot 58 on the south side of the Big Buffalo Creek and on the east side of the Bowen Road.

Myron H. Clark during this summer remodeled and added to the barn on his lot in Elma Village.

A new iron bridge was built across the Big Buffalo Creek at Blossom with new stone abutment and breakwater at the east end of the bridge, in the summer of 1888 to take the place of the bridge that burned December 28th, 1887.

William Philips is the blacksmith at East Elma this year.

Edwin H. Dingman bought of Joseph Wagner on August 9th of this year, a building lot at Jamison, near the northwest corner of Lot 39 between the Williams Road and the railroad and built a store with residence on the second floor in the summer and fall.

The Elma Town Sunday School Association was organized at East Elma September 21st, by Mr. Lewis Haas, the County S. S. Missionary.

Wm. Kleinfelder was appointed postmaster at Blossom this year and had the postoffice in his store.

Mrs. Maria Long was appointed postmaster at Elma and moved the office into her house.

On October 14th there was a very bright rainbow low in the north at noon for three-quarters of an hour. It was short and very flat, the centre not more than eight degrees above the horizon.

580 votes were cast at the Presidential Election of November 6th, 1888. The Electoral College gave Benjamin Harrison 233 votes.

At the close of the year 1888, we find the town of Elma so different from what it was forty years ago, that wonder and astonishment comes over us. At that time there were not 200 acres of land in the town, except on the Mile Strip, that had been cleared by a white man. Now, in 1888, the old growth of timber is practically gone and the timber in sight is mostly of second growth.

The sawmills that had then been built, with those built in later years, and which were then and for many years run day and night to work the timber into lumber, have gone into decay, have been taken down, or were burned. So that at the close of the year 1888, there are but two sawmills in the town, viz.: The Northrup mill at Spring Brook on the same ground where Northrup & Baker built their first mill in October, 1844. and now owned by Eli B. Northrup. The other mill now owned by Harvey J. Hurd in Elma Village is the same mill that was built by Hurd & Briggs in the fall of 1845.

Instead of footpaths through the woods and wagon and sled roads among the trees and stumps, we now have good roads, generally on lot lines, nicely graded and worked.

Instead of fording the streams or using a fallen tree as a foot-bridge, or a cheap frame structure for a bridge over the large streams, we have permanent iron or lattice bridges on stone abut-

ments, which furnish a safe and durable means for crossing the streams.

The log house and barn, or the small plank house, with slab stable or small frame barn have been removed or torn down, and in their places are seen nice frame and brick residences with all the modern conveniences for the pleasure and comfort of the occupants, with large and commodious barns, many of them with stables or basements with stone walls, and carriage houses and other out buildings to satisfy the fancy or the needs of the owner of the premises.

The farms in 1888 are generally cleared of stumps, the rail and stump and road fences are almost gone and, where fences are necessary, they are of post and wire or post and board, the wire being generally preferred. Well cultivated fields with orchards and crops that gladden the farmer are everywhere found, where only a few years ago was the unbroken forest. It has taken many years of hard, persistent labor to make this change; but the settlers were equal to the task and it has been well done. Many of the first settlers who, at first, bought 5, 10, or 15, acres, and supported their families from the wood and timber sold from their small place, found, when the timber was gone, that they could not support their families from their small piece and that they needed more land; so they either bought out their neighbor, or sold to him and went west. This explains why there are so many small empty houses scattered through the town. The original owners have moved away and as a result, the population of the town has grown less and less for the last few years.

#### 1889.

Samuel Schurr opened a blacksmith shop in March on the South side of Jamison Road and east of the railroad on land owned by Ernest Bleack.

Peter Grader bought of Eron Woodard, one-half acre on the west side of the Bowen Road and south side of the railroad, for a grocery and saloon which he opened in a board shanty, July 2d, 1889.

The Town Board on April 27th, ordered a safe for the Town Clerk's office, in which to keep the town records.

On May 3d, (Arbor day) the residents of Elma Village set out thirty-one maple trees on the schoolhouse grounds, but many of them died that summer.

Jacob Jerge and wife left Elma in the spring for a visit to their native place in Germany, to be gone one year.

In April, Henry Kihm bought of John G. Fischer, the brick store on the southwest side of the Plank Road in Spring Brook.

A society of "The Farmers' Alliance" was organized in Spring-Brook this summer, the reputed object being to enable the members to sell their surplus products for better prices and to make purchases for their families and farms through the agency of the Alliance at wholesale prices, less the actual cost of transportation, rent of building and the necessary clerk hire. In this way they expected to save the profits made by the retail dealer, and the middle man.

George D. Briggs, this summer, rebuilt the Bancroft brick house on the top of the hill on the south bank of the Big Buffalo Creek and changed the large barn near the creek by additions and sheds.

Harrison Tillou was appointed postmaster at Spring Brook in the summer of 1889, and moved the postoffice into Henry Kihm's brick store, becoming a partner in the business.

Jacob Koch's barn in Blossom 47 x 147 feet, which was built by the Ebenezers in 1850, burned this summer; Koch immediately rebuilt.

Bower's barn on Clinton Street Road was burned about the same time.

James T. Hurd built a large house on the east side of the Bowen Road on Lot 58 in the summer of 1889 to be finished during the winter and next spring.

Hard frost with ice one-quarter inch thick on the morning of May 29th.

On June 25th, the Erie County Farmers' Institute held a meeting in the park in Elma Village.

Peter Grader was appointed postmaster of the Elma Center postoffice in July and moved the postoffice from Wright's store to his grocery.

Twelve sheds were built at the church in Elma Village in the summer of 1889. They were raised August 31st.

388 votes were cast at the election of November 7th, 1889.

Within the last few years there had been many alterations in the roads in the town of Elma, and many of these alterations had not been properly recorded in the "Records of Roads" in the Town Clerk's office, so that the records were in such shape that a description of many of the roads could not be ascertained.

The Board of Supervisors, on the petition of Eli B. Northrup, Supervisor of the Town of Elma, in October, 1889, ordered a re-survey of the roads in the town, and a revision of the "Record of Roads" for the Town of Elma.

The survey of the roads of the town was made under the supervision and direction of Mr. Jacob Heim, Commissioner of Highways of the town, the surveys were recorded and a revision



of the Records completed and signed by the Commissioners, February 15th, 1890.

The "Jamison Road" postoffice was established this year at the crossing of the railroad and Jamison Road, with Ernst Bleeck as postmaster.

#### 1890.

On January 13th, 1890, a great and sudden change of weather occurred. It had been warm for the season, with rain on three days, when on the morning of the thirteenth, the mercury commenced going down and fell eighteen degrees in one hour, between nine and ten o'clock a. m. and from 65° at 7 a. m. to 30° at 9 p. m., with high wind.

In the months of May and June of this year we had seventeen and three-quarter inches of rain, and fifty-seven inches in one hundred and twenty-eight days.

Albert Price bought the central part of Lot 71 on the north side of the Clinton Street Road and moved into the house in April of this year.

The Farmers' Alliance of Spring Brook erected a building for a hall, etc., on Esquire Ward's lot on the south side of the Plank Road where they held their meetings and by and through their agent ordered and received such articles as the individual members required.

George D. Briggs this year built two new houses on the west side of the Bowen Road near the south line of Lot 58; also a plank sidewalk on the west side of the road from the south line of Lot 58 to the south end of the bridge across the creek. He built a silo at the west end of his stables near the creek, and moved the building near the bridge, which was formerly used as a store, about fifty feet west to be used as a milkhouse and moved the tenant house from south of the brick house on top of the hill, to the bank of the creek, where the old store formerly stood.

Deed from J. B. Briggs to Elma Cemetery Association June 16th, 1890.

James T. Hurd moved into his new house on Lot 58, June 1st.

An Epworth League Society was organized in the M. E. Church of Elma village on July 6th.

The Erie County Farmers' Institute held a meeting in the park in Elma Village, July 26th.

For population of Elma by United States Census for 1890, see Chapter XXI.

The Winspear bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek being unsafe and partly fallen, the Town Board on July 28th, directed the Commissioner of Highways to take down the old bridge and then

to build a new iron bridge in the same place. The new bridge was finished in the fall.

On August 5th, the Town Board divided the Town of Elma into two election districts; the dividing line to begin on the Marilla town line, at the corner of Lots 1 and 2, of the Aurora part of the town, thence west on lot lines to the centre of the Bowen Road, thence north in the centre of the road to the old town line at the corner of lots 48, 52, 55 and 60; thence west on lot lines to the Transit; the south part to be District No. 1, and the north part to be District No. 2.

The east abutment of the Bullis bridge was rebuilt this summer, all of solid limestone. Contract price, \$475.

A plank sidewalk was built this summer from the Spring Brook railroad station, south to the north side of the plank road in Spring Brook Village, then along the northeast side of the road to the east line of the Thayer Place; total distance about one and three-quarter miles.

Charles H. Sweet and John Connors each built a nice dwelling house in Spring Brook at the west end of the village in the summer of 1890.

348 votes were polled in the town at the election of November 4th.

Harvey J. Hurd bought of C. W. Hurd, November 26th, 1890, the south part of Lot 60 and the northeast part of Lot 52.

In August, 1891, Mr. Charles W. Harrah of Detroit, Michigan, came to Buffalo to look over the country near by and surrounding Buffalo for the purpose of starting a suburban village on or near some railroad, and so near to the city as to be convenient for laborers and persons doing business in the city.

After a careful examination of the territory, he decided that Spring Brook station, on the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad in the town of Elma was the right place for his village.

On August 28th, 1891, Harrah bought of Catharine Hager twenty-five acres, being the northeast part of Lot 95, lying on both sides of the railroad and on the west side of the Pound Road.

On August 29th, he secured forty-nine acres of Mrs. Hannah Winspear, being the south part of Lot 94, on the north side of the Bullis Road, and on the west side of the Winspear Road.

On September 4th, he bought of Thomas Summerfield, land lying west of the Hager land on Lot 95 between the Bullis Road and the railroad, making in all about eighty acres of land.

This land was surveyed in August and September by Mr. Mason L. Brown, Civil Engineer, into blocks, and numbered from one to sixteen, each block being surrounded by a street or avenue; and the blocks were sub-divided into lots, generally of 25x100 feet,

except that the lots on both sides of the Bullis Road were 26 or 27x 100 feet in size. A public alley, ten feet wide was in the rear of every lot.

The total number of the lots thus surveyed and numbered with marked stakes was 923.

Harrah had the streets and avenues nicely graded and a three foot sidewalk on one or both sides of several of these streets and avenues.

A map of the village was made and filed in the County Clerk's office in Buffalo, under cover numbered 430.

This new village was called Spring Brook on the map, but later, in some way, it got the name of Crystal City.

Harrah was now ready to sell the lots and after making the necessary arrangements with the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad Company, he advertised in the Buffalo papers, and by circulars, and hand-bills, "that on Thursday, September 17th, Saturday, September 19th and Tuesday, September 22d, special free trains would leave Buffalo for Spring Brook each day at 9.00 a. m., 10.30 a. m. and 2.30 p. m., absolutely free going and coming, no tickets required."

One hundred lots were offered at \$17.00 each; other lots at \$20.00, \$25.00, \$30.00, \$35.00 each, that being the highest price.

Warranty Deeds were to be given when payment was made and to the first fifty persons purchasing one or more lots who would build, finish and occupy a house as a residence within one year from the date of the purchase, the price paid for the lot would be refunded by Harrah.

The free ride on the cars and the low price of the lots caused a great rush of people from Buffalo to visit, if not to purchase lots in the new Spring Brook on the three days above named.

As the lots were not all sold on these three days, free trains were advertised to run on the afternoons of September 28th, October 1st, 17th and 23d, when 808 of the 923 lots had been sold to 286 different persons. Harrah then made a lump sale of the balance of the lots to Cole & Sweet, and Eli B. Northrup of Spring Brook.

The streets and avenues as laid out and named on the map, were as follows:

Streets: Seneca, Vine, North, and South Railroad.

Avenues: Beach, Elm, Laurel, Linden, Magnolia, Oak, Spring Brook and Winspear.

A public alley ten feet wide was at the rear of all the lots.

Cole, Sweet & Northrup sold several lots to different individuals after they bought of Harrah.

Later, Northrop acquired the interest held by Cole & Sweet and also the title from several of the first purchasers of lots.

At the time of the sale of lots, it was thought by many that the low price of the lots and Harrah's offer to return the purchase price of the lots, where houses were built and occupied within the year, together with the cheap fare offered by the railroad company, would induce many persons, especially city laborers, to build houses and change their residences from Buffalo to Spring Brook; but only two families took advantage of Harrah's offer, and the New Spring Brook as a village seems to be a failure.

Some of the owners of lots pay the taxes and thus hold possession; some are offering to convey their lots to any one who will pay the back taxes and pay for the transfer papers, and a few allow their lots to be sold for taxes, thus giving up all hope of realizing anything in the future.

Harrah, in selling the lots, did not sell or convey any title to the streets and avenues, and on April 16th, 1892, Charles W. Harrah petitioned the commissioner of Highways of the Town of Elma to have the said streets and avenues taken as public highways of the town and to have them so described and recorded in the town Clerk's office, and at the same date, he released to the town of Elma the streets and avenues as surveyed and laid out on the afore mentioned map.

On July 1st, 1892, William J. Cole, E. Lawton, Eli B. Northrup, Charles H. Sweet, George Leger, William Bridgman, A. W. Smedes and Mary E. Hurd, petitioned the Commissioner of Highways of the Town of Elma, to have the streets and avenues as surveyed and laid out, and as described in the petition of Charles W. Harrah, dated April 16th, 1892, duly laid out as public highways of the Town of Elma, and to be duly described and recorded in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Elma.

On February 1st, 1895, Henry E. Bancroft, as Commissioner of Highways, ordered that the prayers of the above petitioners be and the same are hereby accepted, and he ordered and declared, that the said streets and avenues be a part of the highways of the said Town of Elma, and that the said streets and avenues on Lot 95, south of the railroad, be joined to and form part of Road District No. 21; and that the streets and avenues on Lots 94 and 95, north of the railroad be joined to and form a part of Road District No. 41 of the Town of Elma.

#### 1891.

For the names of officers elected at the town meeting held on March 3d and November 3, see Chapter XXI.

At the March meeting, 264 votes were polled and at the November town meeting 310 votes were polled; at the general election, November 3d, 482 votes were polled.



The Elma Cemetery Road was laid out in July, 1891.

Jacob Jerge, after his return from Europe, remodeled and made extensive alterations in the Dutton house, (so called) on the west side of Main Street in Elma Village.

Dr. Albert H. Briggs, an Elma boy, but now a resident of Buffalo, celebrated his forty-ninth birthday by giving a "Clam Bake" in the Elma Village Park on September 9th, 1891, where more than 100 of his Elma and Buffalo friends met by invitation to partake of a bountiful feast of good things provided for the inner man; and while seated at the tables, which had been arranged in a hollow square, to enjoy the after dinner speeches and songs were given which reminded one of days that had passed, and which were good and refreshing to the head and heart.

On September 17th, the many friends of Mr. Clark W. Hurd met at his house in Elma Village to extend happy greetings and good wishes to Mr. Hurd, it being his eighty-fifth birthday. A bountiful repast was furnished by the family, and was greatly enjoyed by all present.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Briggs, celebrated at their home October 28th, was the occasion of another gathering in Elma Village, being the third gathering of Elma people within six weeks, to celebrate important events in the individual lives of those whom the people respect, honor and love.

Farm crops in the town were generally good this year; apples especially, a bountiful crop of fine quality.

The trustees of the M. E. Church of Elma Village decided to have a vestibule 10x14 feet built at the front of the church building. Christian Stolle had the contract and the work was commenced December 21st, and was finished in the early part of 1892.

The Young People's Association furnished the money to pay all bills.

We had ten inches of rain on twenty-two days in June and July, and fifty inches on 101 days during the year, and forty-seven inches of snow on fifty days.

## 1892.

Erastus J. Markham on January 1st, gave to his daughter, Mrs. Louis P. Reuther, (nee Nellie Markham) the store and the goods in the store over the millrace in Elma Village as a New Year's present.

Eron Woodard's house and the 30x40 foot barn, north of the house at Elma Center, burned at one o'clock p. m., Sunday, January 31st. As only part of the family were at home when the fire started, and there being nothing at hand with which to fight the fire, in a very

short time the whole interior of the house was in a blaze. The winter's supply of coal which had just been put into the wood-house and several hundred bushels of potatoes which were in the cellar went with the house.

Only a few things were saved from the house, and with these and a few things brought by the neighbors, the family moved into the "Armstrong house," so called, about forty rods south of the fire.

The building and contents were well insured.

At the town meeting held March 8th, 1892, the only officer to be elected was a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Harrison Tillou was elected, only 264 votes polled.

Philip Jerge and Herman Jerge, as the firm of Jerge Brothers, on April 2d, 1892, bought of their father, Jacob Jerge, the two village lots formerly known as the William H. Bancroft, and the Charles A. Dutton lots, on the west side of Main Street in Elma Village with the blacksmith shop, tools and stock then on hand; also other lands on the Chair Factory Road, and Jacob Jerge moved to Lancaster Village; he had been a resident of Elma Village more than forty years, and had built up and carried on the blacksmith and wagon making business more than thirty years.

Mr. R. P. Lee bought the Price place being part of Lots 54 and 59, on the east side of the Bowen Road, and moved into the house May 13th.

Thomas Edwards opened a blacksmith shop in East Elma in July. Frank Metcalf's barn was struck by lightning, and with contents burned June 21st, 1892.

Mrs. William Kleinfelder was appointed postmaster of Blossom postoffice in the summer of 1892.

Rev. Louis A. Wright was sent to Elma by the M. E. Conference, commencing his work October 10th.

At the general election held on November 8th, 1892, 529 votes were polled in both districts of the town. Grover Cleveland was elected President.

### 1893.

The Blossom Fire Company put up a building south of the grist-mill in which to store its implements and for a meeting place of members of the company.

Charles S. Briggs, on April 1st, 1893, bought of Wilbor B. Briggs, a building lot at the northwest corner of the Bowen and Cemetery Roads in Elma Village, and that summer he built a house and moved in, in the fall.

John Edenhoffer, on March 17th, bought of Jerge Brothers, a building lot on the east side of Main Street and the second lot

south of East Street in Elma Village, and that year built a house, moving in the fall.

George W. Hurd rented his farm Lot S5, on the south side of the Bullis Road, for five years and on April 1st, Hurd moved to Buffalo.

Richard Barnett, in April, rented Kihm's store in Spring Brook for four years, buying the goods and opened the store on his own account. Barnett was appointed postmaster at Spring Brook in October; Edwin H. Dingman was appointed postmaster at Jamison Road this summer; Conrad P. Hensel was appointed postmaster at Blossom postoffice in Herline's store; Henry A. Wright was appointed postmaster at Elma Center in July, 1893.

Frank Slade (Schefferstein) on April 11th bought of Eron Woodward a one-sixth acre building lot at Elma Center, adjoining the one-half acre lot of Peter Grader on the south.

The World's Fair was held in Chicago this year, and Elma sent many delegates who brought back astonishing reports as to the wonderful "White City," and of the endless variety, perfectness and beauty of the exhibits.

An Odd Fellows Society was organized in Spring Brook this year. During the summer a company was organized in Spring Brook to put down a gas well. The place selected was on the southwest side of the Plank Road, nearly opposite the Kyser house, on what has for many years been known as the steam mill lot; then owned by Eli B. Northrup. The drill was put down 1240 feet, and it was thought a good supply of gas was in sight; but after shooting the well and not very much increase of gas resulting, the well was plugged and remained so for some years, when, as per contract, the whole reverted to Mr. Northrup.

A new bridge over the Millrace on the Cemetery Road in Elma Village was raised July 28th, and finished in a few days. Then followed a "bee," to haul and place stone and gravel for the approaches to both ends of the bridge.

The west abutment to the Bullis bridge as originally built with a timber foundation, for that part which would be under water so long as the dam across the creek caused a pond; now as the dam had gone left the timber foundation exposed and it had become so decayed that a new stone abutment was a necessity; the contract was let to Momen & Koch for \$583.72 with some repairs to the bridge to be completed before fall.

Andrew Slade built a coal and grain house on east side of Bowen Road on Lot 48, northeast of the railroad. The M. E. Society of Spring Brook bought the German Evangelical building lot in the fall of 1893.

Mrs. Pauline Gloss, on October 24th, bought of Mrs. George Kelgus, the house and lot south of the hotel on west side of the

Bowen Road on Lot 60. 408 votes were polled at the election November 7th, 1893.

1894.

The store which was built by George W. Hatch at East Elma on Lot 10, on the northeast corner of the Jamison and Thompson Roads in 1868, and had been since that time successively occupied by several persons as merchants, viz: George W. Hatch, George and Niles Hatch, Isaac Smith, Harvey C. Palmer, Edwin H. Dingman, George and James Hatch, George and Leonard Hatch and George W. Hatch to January 13th, 1894, was then sold by George W. Hatch to Charles Burman, both store and goods, and Burman has since that time and in 1900 is the merchant of the place. Geo. W. Hatch was appointed postmaster at East Elma in 1870, and had been postmaster with the different resident merchants as assistants or deputies, until March 2d, 1894, when Charles Burman was appointed postmaster.

On February 9th, 1894, three men commenced to erect a derrick for the purpose of drilling for gas on James T. Hurd's land, on the south side of the Big Buffalo Creek just east of the mouth of Pond Brook. The drill was started at 9 o'clock p. m. February 22d, and was put down 1400 feet and the well was shot on March 27th. The result was too small a supply of gas to be of any use.

The Elma villagers had for some time talked about a plank sidewalk to the railroad crossing and station. Several meetings had been held, and a sufficient fund having been raised, the lumber was ordered and was delivered about the middle of March.

Chalres S. Briggs and Cortland C. Briggs had the contract to lay the plank on the west side of the Bowen Road from the south line of Lot 58, to the railroad crossing.

The residents on the Clinton Street Road furnished the lumber and built the walk from the Clinton Street Road to J. B. Briggs' house, and the villagers completed the walk to the bridge across the Creek.

This made a plank walk from Clinton Street to the railroad, a distance of about two miles, all finished April 1st.

The gas well near the Buffalo Creek in Elma Village proving a failure, "The Municipal Gas Co.," was organized, with Harvey J. Hurd, James T. Hurd, Geo. D. Briggs, R. P. Lee, J. Eddie Briggs, and Myron H. Clark, of Elma Village, and Eli B. Northrup and Charles H. Sweet of Spring Brook, as directors. The company commenced drilling for gas on the east side of the Bowen Road and near the south line of Lot 55, on land owned by Harvey J. Hurd.

The drill was put down about 1800 feet, with some show of gas and the well was shot, which seemed to increase the supply. The



company applied to the Town Board for the right and privilege to lay pipe along the streets, highways and alleys of the town of Elma, for the purpose of conducting natural gas through the same. The petition was acted upon by the Town Board April 16th, 1894, and the privileges were granted; R. T. Barnet, supervisor; Henry A. Wright, Town Clerk; James A. Woodard, Harrison Tillou and W. B. Briggs, Justices of the Peace, signing the grant. The company ordered and received 3-inch pipe, which was laid from the well to the west side of the Bowen Road, and along the west side of the road and across the creek and to the house of J. B. Briggs, and connections were made from the main pipe to gas meters placed in the houses of James T. Hurd, Geo. D. Briggs, Myron H. Clark, Erastus J. Markham, J. B. Briggs and Harvey J. Hurd. The supply of gas did not increase, and gradually the pressure went down, and finally became so small that the pipe was taken up, and no use of natural gas has since been made in Elma Village, except what flows from the mouths of some of the residents; that supply is not limited.

Mr. F. L. A. Cady, of Buffalo, on May 10th, bought of Mrs. J. C. Standart, one and one-half acres, adjoining Mrs. Price, on the east side of the Bowen Road and on Lot 59.

Henry A. Wright, Town Clerk, on August 31st, resigned his office, and the same day the Town Board appointed Warren Jackman to fill the vacancy.

On September 1st, Wright sold the goods in the store at Elma Centre to Mrs. Wilkes and her sister, Miss Smith. Mr. Wilkes was acting as agent for the W. N. Y. & P. R. R. Co., at the Elma station.

Wright moved to Buffalo, where he opened a store on Seneca Street at the city line.

The Leger saloon and barn in Spring Brook having burned, a new barn was immediately built, and used as a saloon, while the new hotel was being built, in the summer of 1894.

The Odd Fellows' Society of Springbrook bought a piece of land west of the Union church lot, and erected and finished a nice, large building for a hall and other purposes, all completed in the summer of 1894.

441 votes were polled at the election, November 6th.

All through the months of January, February and into March we had a continuous succession of snow storms, with very high wind and temperature in February from 2° to 14° below zero. All the roads were badly drifted and were nearly impassable for several days; making the worst continuous storm for many years.

At the town meeting held March 12th, 515 votes were polled; for officers elected see Chapter XXI.

The ice went out of the large streams in the Town of Elma March 25th; no flood to cause damage, only at East Elma, where part of the milldam went out, and Anthony Allen, then owner of the old Hatch-Hemstreet sawmill, decided not to repair the dam, and he soon took down the sawmill. So the "Indian Mill", another old land mark, is gone.

Alexander Sutton, on April 1st, bought of Mrs. Wilkes, the goods in the store at the railroad station at Elma Centre, and on April 5th, 1895, Frank Sutton was appointed postmaster of the Elma Centre postoffice.

The railroad station was on the west side of the tracks, and a driveway separated the station and store, the postoffice being in the store.

Before eleven o'clock of the evening of June 18th, fire was discovered in the shed, at the west side of the store, among some empty boxes which had been piled in the end of the shed next to the store. When the alarm was given, the fire had worked into the store and in a very few minutes the whole inside of the store was a roaring furnace. Only a few letters and the mail bag were saved; nothing saved from the store.

The fire quickly worked its way to Andrew Slades' coal and lumber office on the north end of the store, and to Slades' shingle shed at the north of the office. There was but little, if any, insurance.

The fire soon reached the depot building which was quickly consumed.

The body of an empty freight car was utilized as a station until a board shanty was erected, and this served until the railroad company built the present station on the east side of the tracks, and 200 feet south from the crossing of the Woodward Road.

A carriage road was soon made from the station along the east side of the railroad tracks and east side of Slades' coal and grain building to the Bowen Road, which enabled the Elma Villagers to drive to the station without crossing the tracks.

Alexander Sutton, on June 27th, bought of Eron Woodard a lot on the west side of the Bowen Road, next south of Frank Slades' lot, and put up a building for store and postoffice.

Frank Slade, on July 8th, bought of E. Woodard a lot south of Woodard's house, and that summer built his house and barn.

George D. Briggs remodeled his barn and stables near the Big Buffalo Creek, arranged the old store building into a milk house, and commenced to bottle and send to Buffalo "Certified Milk."

320 votes were polled at the election, November 5th, 1895.

February of this year gave us forty-two inches of snow with high winds and badly drifted roads.

On March 29th, we had four separate and distinct thunder storms between nine and eleven o'clock a. m.

At the town meeting, March 10th, 373 votes were polled. See Chapter XXI, for officers elected at town meeting.

Robert C. Board of Buffalo, bought the Clark-Baker place, across the street from the church in Elma Village.

George D. Briggs, this year built two more silos at the west end of his cattle stables.

Alexander Sutton in May sold the goods in his store in Elma Centre to Frank Sutton and Charles Sommers and rented the store to them for one year.

Joseph Geyer leased of Alexander Sutton land for a blacksmith shop, between Sutton's store and Slade's coal office, in Elma Centre, and in the summer he built a shop and went to work, thus starting the first blacksmith shop in Elma centre.

Michael Greiss bought the mill property in Blossom, and in the summer rebuilt the gristmill, with cidermill attached.

Irving Schurr, on May 9th, bought of E. H. Dingman and J. Wagner a lot for blacksmith shop and residence at Jamison, between the Williams Road and the railroad, on Lot 39, that summer he built the shop and house.

Louis P. Reuther built a barn on the east side of the Main Street in Elma Village next to the creek.

Edgar L. Murlin, in August, bought the James Clark place in Elma Village, and on the east side of Main Street, across from Jerge Brothers' blacksmith shop.

Dr. Albert H. Briggs of Buffalo, celebrated his fifty-fourth birthday on September 9th, 1896, by giving a "Clam Chowder" dinner to his many friends on the lawn in front of Wilbor B. Briggs' house in Elma Village. The large number (more than 100) of persons present greatly enjoyed the dinner and the sociable part, and all declared that the doctor was a full team as entertainer.

Harvey J. Hurd this summer overhauled and rebuilt the sawmill and gristmill in Elma Village and put in extensive water works machinery to supply his house and barns with water. He put a 400 barrel tank into the barn on the east side of the road, on top of the hill across from the schoolhouse, and connected that tank by pipes to a large force pump which was placed under the gristmill, the pump to be driven by water power, to force the water into the large tank. Then by other pipes, connections were made with the house, barns, garden and lawn, so they were all supplied with

water. The tank being so elevated, he can, with a hose, throw water into and over any of his buildings. He also built a large ice house on the north bank of the millpond near the sawmill.

Jacob Heim built a steam cidermill on his farm east of Jamison Station in the summer of 1896.

The Farmers' Alliance at Spring Brook collapsed this year. We had a large crop of apples this year.

The M. E. Church building in Spring Brook was this year altered and repaired, and was re-dedicated December 29th, 1896.

442 votes were polled at the election November 3d. Votes of Electoral College for McKinley, 271; for William J. Bryan, 176.

### 1897.

High wind, seventy-six miles per hour at 2 p. m. March 12th.

At the town meeting, March 9th, 528 votes were polled. The law having been changed as to the time Supervisors should commence to hold office, from their election at the March town meeting as heretofore, to January 1st after they were elected. James A. Woodard, although elected March 9th, 1897, could not take the office until January 1st, 1898. Consequently a vacancy existed in the office of Supervisor after March 9th. To fill this vacancy, the Town Board appointed John Luders, ex-Supervisor.

Charles Sommers sold his interest in the goods of Sutton & Sommers' store to Alexander and Frank Sutton in May 1897, and June 23d he bought the goods in Peter Grader's store and commenced on his own account in Grader's store.

The Catholic Church in Spring Brook was repainted this summer. The building in Spring Brook known as "The Farmers' Alliance Hall," was sold to Joseph Klass and moved from Esq. Ward's lot, on to the lot across the street from the brick store.

Harrison Tillou was this year appointed postmaster of Spring Brook postoffice, and moved the office from Barnett's store in October, to his justice's office opposite the Catholic church.

Ernst Bleeck was appointed postmaster of the Jamison Road postoffice and moved the postoffice from Dingman's store to Bleeck's on the north side of Jamison Road.

Andrew F. Slade on July 14th, bought of Eron Woodard's heirs a building lot on west side of the Bowen Road at Elma Center and near the so-called Armstrong house, and built a house that summer and moved in the fall.

Louis P. Reuther built a store and house combined on the east side of Main Street in Elma Village, at north end of the bridge across the creek and was that year appointed postmaster of the Elma postoffice.



John McMullen's house in East Elma burned at noon, September 6th, 1897.

Warren Jackman was on September 30th appointed Attendance Officer for the town. Joseph Geyer on December 17th bought of the Woodard heirs a building lot on the west side of the Bowen Road at Elma Centre, south of Sutton's store.

There was a very small crop of apples this year, many of the farmers not having a bushel from their whole orchard.

#### 1898.

On January 12th, 1898 there was a heavy thunder storm from 6 to 10 o'clock p. m., when one inch of water fell and was followed with snow and very high wind.

James McGiveron rented the Beck blacksmith shop in Spring Brook and commenced work in April.

Charles Thayer in the summer of this year built a barn on his lot in Spring Brook.

Louis P. Leuther in March, moved into his new store at the north end of the bridge in Elma Village.

George W. Hurd moved from Buffalo April 1st, on to his farm, Lot 85, on the south side of Bullis Road.

Joseph Geyer built a house and barn on his lot in Elma Centre, south of Sutton's store.

An English Sunday-school was organized at Elma Centre this summer, the school being held in the schoolhouse at the corner of the Bowen and Rice Roads.

Baker's saloon across the Street from the Union Church in Spring Brook was burned with contents on July 2d, 1898. It was immediately rebuilt.

Peter Burn's barn on the Jamison Road was struck by lightning and burned in July, 1898.

Dr. Albert H. Briggs of Buffalo, on September 9th, celebrated his fifty-sixth birthday by inviting his many friends to a Chowder dinner given on W. B. Briggs' lawn in Elma Village. As usual, it was a gathering which resulted in binding all together in social bonds of friendship.

Jerge Brothers in the fall of 1898 put up a new building in Elma Village, on the north side of their blacksmith shop, for a carriage, storage and paint shop.

The railroad company built a new station on the south side of Jamison Road in the summer of 1898.

There was a very light crop of apples in Elma this year.

James T. Hurd, Harvey J. Hurd and J. E. Briggs, each put up a new silo as an attachment to their cattle barns. The silos were

each sixteen feet in diameter and twenty-four feet in height and were enclosed in a frame building, lined, papered and sided, so as to be nearly frost proof.

Warren Jackman was on September 29th appointed by the Town Board, for a second term as Attendance Officer for the whole Town of Elma.

Mrs. Clara E. Gibson bought the north house built by George D. Briggs on the west side of the Bowen Road near the south line of Lot 58, with the building lot, and put in a tile drain from the west side of her house to the bank of Pond Brook, going across the road and through James T. Hurd's orchard and down the bank to the brook.

Burton H. Hurd in October bought the other house and lot next south of Mrs. Gibsons', and put in a tile drain to connect with Mrs. Gibsons' drain.

At the general election November 8th, 460 votes were polled in this town, and Theodore Roosevelt was elected Governor of the State by over 21,000 majority.

Alexander Rush sold the hotel property at southwest corner of Bowen and Bullis Roads to Matthias Nosbisch, November 16th, 1898, consideration \$2,150.

From December 4th to 12th we had thirty-two inches of snow, with very high wind, changing from southeast to east, to northwest to west, southwest to north and north east, piling and drifting the snow so as to block railroad trains and country roads; and the streets in the southeast part of Buffalo were closed for several days, the street cars not moving.

#### 1899.

Snow and blizzard on January 6th and 7th; again on January 21st, and again on January 26th and 27th: at 10 o'clock p. m. January 27th, the wind was a seventy-two mile gale.

March 1st, Mrs. Emilie Ford bought of Alexander and Frank Sutton, the goods in their store in Elma Centre, renting the store for three years.

Total vote at the town meeting March 14th, 559. For officers elected see Chapter XXI.

By the terms of the new law, we, in Erie County are to hold town meetings biennially; on the odd years, and all town officers elected will hold office for two years.

Myron H. Clark in April bought of the heirs of William Standart, deceased, the lands and appurtenances of the William Standart estate, on the east side of the Bowen Road and on the north side of the Bullis Road, being part of Lots 49, 54 and 59, except the east

half of the south fifty acres of Lot 49. By the terms of the settlement, William Wesley Standart, one of the said heirs, is to have the said excepted twenty-five acres.

Robert C. Board put a new felt roof on his house across the street from the church in Elma Village.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Lee celebrated their silver wedding June 3d.

Mrs. Emilie Ford was appointed postmaster at Elma Centre postoffice July 19th.

The M. E. Church in Elma Village was re-painted in August.

Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo C. Bancroft celebrated their golden wedding September 12th.

Dr. Albert H. Briggs, for fifty-seventh birthday celebration, had a clam chowder party September 9th, on Wilbor B. Briggs' lawn in Elma village; 120 persons present and all had a fine time.

Solon Hines was on September 28th appointed Attendance Officer for the whole town.

The hardest drought ever known in the Town of Elma was during the summer of 1899. Not a drop of water ran from Pond Brook into the Big Buffalo Creek from June 20th to September 26th; except a *very little* on July 10th, 11th and 12th. The drought was finally broken by a shower on September 18th. The three days of gentle, steady rain on September 24th, 25th and 26th, when two and one-half inches of water fell, was so gradual, and the ground was so dry, that not a drop of the water drained into the streams; so they showed no signs of rain, only what fell in the bed of the streams, until the morning of September 27th, and then only a little. Many farmers had to haul water from the nearest stream for their farm stock. Plowing for fall and winter grain was greatly delayed as the ground was so dry and hard that it was impossible on most farms to do any plowing.

A new stone abutment for the south end of the bridge across the creek in Elma Village was built in October by Philip Jerge, finished October 29th. Contract price \$500.

The vote at the election November 6th, 1st district 213; 2d district 173. Total 386. A mad dog scare just before Christmas in Elma Village resulted in the killing of eight dogs; twenty more could be disposed of.

In November and December, Eli B. Northrup, owner of the gas well in Spring Brook, had pipe laid from the well to his house, with branches and connections to the residence of Joseph Klass, to Richard Barnett's store, the Odd Fellows Hall and to Eli B. Northrup's residence. On December 31st, the gas was turned on and these places were heated and lighted. These were the first gas-lights in Spring Brook.

The mad dog scare, mentioned in the last part of 1899, continued through the holiday season and on January 1st, 1900, shows no abatement in Elma Village; the demand that other and more dogs which were reported to have been bitten, should be killed or kept in close confinement, is urged and demanded as security for human and animal life; but some people seem to care more for their worthless curs than they do for the lives and property of their neighbors.

For three days in January, 11th to 14th, all the trees were loaded with ice and snow which was removed by the thaw of 14th and 15th.

The fine sleighing for several days, also the ice and three inches of snow of January 11th was spoiled by the thaw of 17th and 18, which was followed by one and one-half inches of rain on the 20th, all together causing the highest water in the streams in the town for many years, but as there was no ice, but little damage resulted.

On January 15th, Burton H. Hurd had a barn raised on his lot on the west side of the Bowen Road, south from Elma Village; his building lot being on the line between Lots 58 and 59; his house is on Lot 58 and his barn on Lot 59.

At a meeting of the members and congregation of the Catholic society of Spring Brook, held in its church on Sunday, December 31st, 1899, notice was given that on Sunday, January 7th, 1900, the parsonage building, and the barn (old church building) on the northeast end of its church lot, would be sold to the highest bidder. The sale took place according to the said notice. Mr. Robert Wiley bought the house for \$149; and it will be moved on to the lot on the north side of the Plank Road, and next south from the Thayer place (old Mouse Nest).

The barn, which was the first church building in the Town of Elma, and was used by the Catholic society as their church from 1850 to 1874, when it was moved to the east end of their lot and has since been used as a parsonage barn, was sold for \$20; was taken down and moved on to land owned by William Fisher, being part of Lot 100, on the east side of the Blossom Road, south of the railroad.

Within the last few years, farmers have been putting up wind-mills for the purpose of pumping water to supply their farm stock. No mention has been heretofore made, and now on January 1st, 1900, we find among the names of the owners of these mills the following: Peter Heineman, 2, George Beidler, J. Eddy Briggs, Louis P. Reuther, George D. Briggs, James T. Hurd, Mrs. C. E. Gibson, Thomas Schneider, George W. Hurd, Henry E. Stitz, William F. Stitz, Henry W. Stitz, Henry Lexo, Col. E. Persons, Stephen Curtis, Irving Schurr, D. K. Adams, Borden Cole, Herbert Lathrop, William Conley, Henry Kihm, D. L. Wilson, and on the William M. Rice place, James Grace, Caleb Brown, Fred Maurer.



On February 2d, the "Old Bear" came out, and as it was a bright day she saw her shadow and wisely went back to remain for six weeks. Winter soon set in again with renewed force, so that February and March, 1900 pass into history as record breakers for heavy snow storms, with very high winds, roads made impassable, unpleasant weather.

An epidemic of measles prevailed in the town from January 1st into May, causing several of the schools to close which will account for the small attendance of pupils during the school year.

The mad dog scare, mentioned on January 1st, continued until May, and as a result a goodly number of dogs were put out of the way, but enough remained to make the dog nuisance in the town so great, as at times to severely tax the patience of decent, order-loving citizens.

On March 1st, Charles Clough hired Irving Schurr's shop at Jamison Road and commenced work as blacksmith.

In April, the Patrick Cassady place on the Thompson Road at East Elma was sold to Willard F. Hines.

Sylvester Rush in April bought of Jacob Miller the thirty acre lot on northeast corner of Lot 53, being the southwest corner of the Bowen and Rice Roads.

May 4th, Charles Stetson with his family moved from Buffalo into Mrs. Standart's house, on the east side of the Bowen Road south of Elma Village.

May 14th, the grass has started so that farmers are turning their stock out to pasture. A few gardens are made and some early potatoes are planted.

Henry E. Bancroft was appointed to take the United States census in the town on the west side of the Bowen Road, and George Heim to take the census on the east side of that road. For result see Chapter XXI.

The Republican National Convention met in Philadelphia and on June 20th adopted a platform, of which the main features are: "That American authority is to be maintained in the Philippines, with the largest measure of self-government, consistent with the welfare of the inhabitants; the pledge to give Cuba independence will be kept; increased shipping favored; to reduce war taxes: to build, own and control the Isthmian Canal; and the extension of our foreign trade; pledge to the principles of the gold standard, and opposed to the free and unlimited coinage of silver without the support of the leading commercial countries of the world; favor co-operation of capital to meet new conditions and to extend our foreign trade, but condemn combinations to restrict business, to erect monopolies, or to control prices; and favor legislation to pre-

vent abuses, protect and promote competition and secure the rights of producers, laborers and all who are engaged in industry and commerce.

June 21st, the Convention by unanimous vote, named William McKinley as its candidate for the Presidency by a vote of 929—one delegate not voting; the Convention then named Theodore Roosevelt, Governor of New York, as candidate for Vice-President.

The Prohibition party held its National Convention in Chicago, June 27th. The platform presents the liquor traffic, as being socially, morally, financially and politically wrong, and the licensed liquor traffic is and ought to be the overwhelming issue in American politics. On June 28th, John G. Woolley of Illinois, was nominated as the candidate for President, and Henry B. Metcalf for Vice-President.

The Democratic Party held its National Convention in Kansas City on July 4th. On July 5th, the platform was adopted. It declared against "Imperialism" as the leading issue; against Militarism and Trusts; adopted the Chicago platform of 1896 and declared for free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver on the ratio of 16 to 1, by this government without regard to any other nation. William J. Bryan was the unanimous choice of the convention as its candidate for President; and the next day Adlai Stephenson was chosen as candidate for Vice-President.

The silver Republicans in convention in Kansas City, endorsed Bryan and Stephenson.

The Populist Convention decided to accept of Bryan and Stephenson.

Mr. Bryan in accepting the nomination in Indianapolis, August 3d, said: "If I am elected I shall convene Congress in extraordinary session, as soon as I am inaugurated and recommend an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose on the Philippine question. First, to establish a stable government in the Philippines, just as we are now establishing a stable government in the island of Cuba.

Second, to give independence to the Filipinos just as we have promised to give independence to the Cubans.

Third, to protect the Filipinos from outside interference, while they work out their destiny, just as we have protected the Republics of Central and South America, and are by the Monroe doctrine pledged to protect Cuba.

July 4th, 1900, was observed by the Elma people as has been their custom for many years by a gathering in the park. This was an old-fashioned basket picnic, and about 150 persons joined in the dinner and social part of the program.

John Miller's barn on the Woodard Road was struck by lightning and burned, with all the crops and farm tools, at 5 o'clock p. m. July 10th.

The hay crop is very small, owing to the droughts of last year, and of May and June of this year.

A larger acreage of land is under the plow this year, and more acres put into oats, potatoes and corn, especially fodder corn, than in any previous year.

Myron H. Clark, owner of the property at the northeast corner of the Bullis and Bowen Roads, on August 3d took down the frame of the barn which was built by George Standart in 1843, and as the timber was mostly pine and in a good state of preservation, he used it in building a barn twenty rods north, and near to the brick house which was built by William Standart in 1853.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, early in the year began to look for a way by which that company could gain an entrance into Buffalo. The W. N. Y. & P. Railroad seemed to be the most desirable and negotiations were commenced and carried on between the two companies until arrangements were completed and on August 1st, 1900, the Pennsylvania Company took possession of the road and of all the rolling stock and property of the W. N. Y. & P. R. R. Company; and from that date it will be known as a branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The schoolhouse in Blossom, (District No. 8), having been condemned by the School Commissioner as not suitable for school purposes, the residents of that school district, at a special meeting held in the schoolhouse in July, voted to build a new house, and after several meetings, the old house, after the seats were taken out, was sold to Alois Dusch for \$49, and was by Dusch moved across the street, and at a later meeting the contract to build the new house, 30x40, with 14 foot posts to have two rooms, was let to Jacob Weil & Co., the contract price being \$2,175, to be completed by November 20th, the building to occupy the old site on the south of Main Street in Blossom Village.

Charles H. Sweet's store at the corner of the Northrup and Aurora Roads in the Village of Spring Brook, burned at 6 o'clock p. m., August 23d; building and goods destroyed, only some household furniture in the wing of the building saved, partially insured. This wipes out the first building in Spring Brook built as a store by E. G. Kent in 1850.

Along in July, posters, hand-bills and circulars were put up and circulated throughout this and adjoining towns, announcing that "on Saturday, July 28th, there would be a grand circus and hippodrome on "Bonny Brook," (Mr. R. Porter Lee's place), with music by the band, a grand parade, wild animals, chariot races,

wild west riding and shooting and other attractions that would put the "Traveling Circus" in the shade."

To prepare for this, the Elma boys, with a little outside help, worked and practiced daily and nightly.

July 28th was an ideal circus day—fair weather, gentle breeze, temperature just right and everything was ready on time. At 2 o'clock p. m. people began to gather at the grounds, and at 3 o'clock, the time set for the performance to begin, more than 300 persons were there, most of them having visited the side shows. Every part of the program was perfectly rendered—not a slip nor jar; and at the evening performance more than 400 persons enjoyed the entertainment, which by general assent was declared to be better than had been promised.

This effort proved so satisfactory that it was decided to have another "circus" next year.

On Monday, September 17th, a certificate of the incorporation of the "Elma Circus," a club organized for social purposes, was filed with the County Clerk in this County.

The directors are: James T. Hurd, R. Porter Lee, George D. Briggs, Robert C. Board, Myron H. Clark, John R. Lee, Burton H. Hurd, Ernest C. Crane and Charles S. Gibson.

The tornado which struck Galveston, Texas, September 8th, continuing for thirty hours, with wind eighty-four to ninety-six miles per hour, making a wreck of that city, with loss of life, as reported from 11,000 to 14,000, and property loss estimated at \$25,000,000, reached this part of the country Tuesday evening, September 11th, the wind increasing until 5 o'clock a. m. September 12th, at times a seventy-eight mile gale; causing throughout the path of the storm great destruction of fruit and buildings.

The Government breakwater at Buffalo was damaged \$20,000; the Pan-American buildings damaged \$100,000. The Buffalo signal office reported it as the worst September storm on record. The destruction of fruit was about all the damage in the Town of Elma.

Dr. Albert H. Briggs celebrated his fifty-eighth birthday by inviting his many friends to a clam chowder dinner, to be given on the lawn in front of Wilbor B. Briggs' house in Elma Village. Tables were spread for 250, and as the day was pleasant, (September 8th), the friends enjoyed the repast and the occasion, so that a vote of thanks was given with three royal cheers for the doctor, and he was invited to repeat the whole thing at his next birthday.

No water was running from Pond Brook from September 5th to September 29th.



Farmers have through the year had fair to extra prices for their produce; crops have generally turned out very good, except hay, which was a short crop.

Milk is produced for the Buffalo market each year in larger quantities, and this year the farmers are receiving nine, ten and eleven cents per gallon at the railroad stations, which is quite an advance above previous years, but the higher price of grain to be fed to the cows brings the net receipts to the farmer about as in former years.

Silos are coming into favor as a way to secure the fodder crops at less expense and with profit, as reported by those farmers who have them.

In October 1900, the following named persons have silos: On the Mile Strip, D. K. Adams, Bordan Cole, Griggs & Ball; on the Aurora part, Ellsworth G. Persons and Benjamin J. Eldridge; on the Lancaster part, George D. Briggs, 2, J. Eddy Briggs, Harvey J. Hurd, James T. Hurd, 2, Morris Hill and Jacob Seeger.

Michael Greiss in October had his dwelling house raised on the mill lot in Blossom, a few rods south from the gristmill.

October 13th, 1900, at 5:45 o'clock p. m., as Philip Jerge was crossing Pond Brook bridge in Elma Village, with a load of about forty bushels of potatoes, four boys, viz.: Jacob and Philip Jerge, his sons, Charles Jerge, son of Herman Jerge, and Charles Schroeder, and two hired men, Michael Morath and George Heidenrath, all on the wagon, just as the horses were going off the west end of the bridge, the north end of the needle beam that supported that section of the bridge, being rotten, broke down, letting thirty feet of the length of the bridge to the rock bottom of the stream, seventeen feet below the floor of the bridge, with the wagon, men, boys and horses in the wreck.

The wagon turned bottom up with Morath under the box, with plank and joist on the wagon, and the horses on their backs on top of the whole. Morath was taken out with two broken ribs which had penetrated the lungs, and a dislocated shoulder. George Heidenrath had a bruised hip; Jacob Jerge back and hip bruised, Charles Jerge a sprained ankle. The horses were not injured.

The bridge had been rebuilt in April 1896 with oak needle beams and oak joist. A traction engine had crossed the bridge three times within the last six weeks, and two days before the break-down a much heavier load, wagon and horses, than Jerge's had crossed, and no one had a thought but the bridge was perfectly safe.

In three days, temporary repairs had been made so that teams could safely cross. The Town Board directed Fred Luders the Commissioner of Highways to have a steel or iron bridge placed there without unnecessary delay.

The Horse Heads Iron Bridge Co. had the contract, and had the bridge with steel joists all ready for the flooring on December 25th, 1900, and that day the Commissioner had the floor laid so teams could cross. Contract price \$284.

First killing frost on morning of October 17th—temperature 30° at 7 a. m.

The Philippine war is still carried on by guerrilla bands, the Republicans claiming that Aguinaldo is encouraged by the Democratic platform and their speeches, to hold on until after the Presidential election, with the assurance that if Bryan is elected, he will recognize their independence and withdraw the American army, thus giving to the Tagalogs the control of all the tribes of the Philippine Islands. The Republicans claim that if McKinley is elected the rebellion will soon cease, and peace and prosperity in the islands will be the result.

The Presidential campaign of 1900 has been carried through with great labor and cost by both Republican and Democratic parties. William J. Bryan, the Democratic candidate for President has canvassed most of the Western, and several of the Southern and Middle States, making four to ten speeches each day for several weeks, making Imperialism the paramount issue, with Trusts as a second.

Governor Theodore Roosevelt, the Republican candidate for Vice-President, has in the same time, practically covered the same territory, making the financial condition and the 16 to 1 plank of the Democratic platform the principal ground for his speeches. Mass meetings in cities and towns, with speeches and pole raising, have been largely attended, each party doing their best to out-do their opponents, each trying to interest and secure voters for their party.

Greater interest has been manifested by the leaders of both parties during this campaign than in any other Presidential election since 1860.

#### TEN PRESIDENTIAL TICKETS.

The following are the national tickets:

REPUBLICAN—President, William McKinley of Ohio; Vice-President, Theodore Roosevelt of New York.

DEMOCRATIC—President, William J. Bryan of Nebraska; Vice-President, Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois.

POPULIST—President, William J. Bryan of Nebraska; Vice-President, Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois.

SILVER REPUBLICANS—President, William J. Bryan of Nebraska; Vice-President, Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois.

MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD POPULIST—President, Wharton Barker of Pennsylvania; Vice-President, Ignatius Donnelly of Minnesota.

PROHIBITIONIST—President, John G. Wolley of Illinois; Vice-President, Henry B. Metcalf of Rhode Island.

UNION REFORM—President, Seth Ellis of Ohio; Vice-President, Samuel T. Nicholson of Pennsylvania.

UNITED CHRISTIANS—President, Dr. S. C. Swallow of Pennsylvania; Vice-President, John G. Woolley of Illinois.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS—President, Eugene V. Debs of Indiana; Vice President, Job Hariman of California.

DE LEON SOCIALISTS—President, Joseph F. Maloney of Massachusetts; Vice-President, Valentine Remmill of Pennsylvania.

The election held on November 6th resulted in the election of the Republican candidates.

STATES CARRIED BY MCKINLEY:	Approximate Majority.	Electoral Votes.
California .....	20,000	9
Connecticut .....	25,000	6
Delaware .....	3,000	3
Illinois .....	100,000	24
Indiana .....	30,000	15
Iowa .....	70,000	13
Kansas .....	20,000	10
Maine .....	25,000	6
Maryland .....	10,000	8
Massachusetts .....	83,000	15
Michigan .....	60,000	14
Minnesota .....	50,000	9
Nebraska .....	7,372	8
New Hampshire.....	18,000	4
New Jersey.....	35,000	10
New York.....	160,000	36
North Dakota.....	10,000	3
Ohio .....	70,000	23
Oregon .....	10,000	4
Pennsylvania .....	300,000	32
Rhode Island.....	15,000	4
South Dakota.....	15,000	4
Utah .....	2,140	3
Vermont .....	30,000	4
Washington .....	8,000	4
West Virginia.....	15,000	6
Wisconsin .....	80,000	12
Wyoming .....	3,000	3
Total .....		292

STATES CARRIED BY BRYAN:		Approximate Majority.	Electoral Votes.
Alabama .....		60,000	11
Arkansas .....		60,000	8
Colorado .....		35,000	4
Florida .....		22,000	4
Georgia .....		40,000	13
Idaho .....		2,170	3
Kentucky .....		7,957	13
Louisiana .....		35,000	8
Mississippi .....		45,000	9
Missouri .....		20,000	17
Montana .....		18,000	3
Nevada .....		1,000	3
North Carolina .....		30,000	11
South Carolina .....		30,000	9
Tennessee .....		20,000	12
Texas .....		175,000	15
Virginia .....		25,000	12
Total .....			155
McKinley " .....			292
Total .....			447
McKinley's majority .....			137
In 1896 McKinley had .....			271
" " W. J. Bryan had .....			176
McKinley's majority .....			95
Popular vote at Presidential election November 6th, 1900:			
McKinley received .....	7,217,677	votes.	
Bryan " .....	6,357,853	"	
Barker " .....	50,188	"	
Woolley " .....	207,368	"	
Debs " .....	94,552	"	
Malloney " .....	33,450	"	
Scattering .....	6,211	"	
Total .....		13,967,299	
McKinley's plurality .....		859,824	
" majority over all .....		468,055	
The Electoral College gave McKinley 292 votes; Bryan 155 votes.			
McKinley's majority 137.			



## BUSINESS DIRECTORY FOR ELMA, 1900.

### BLACKSMITHS.

Clough, Charles, Jamison Road; Jerge Brothers, Elma Village;  
Dusch, Alois, Blossom; Jerge Brothers, Bowen and Clin-  
Edwards, Thomas, East Elma; ton Street;  
Geyer, Joseph, Elma Centre; McGiveron, James, Spring Brook.

### BUTTER FACTORY.

Cole & Fish, Aurora Plank Road.

### CIDER MILLS.

Greiss, Michael, Blossom; Hesse, Herman, Chair Factory  
Heim, Jacob and Sons, Jamison Road;  
Road; Reuther, Louis P., Elma Village.

### COAL.

Bleeck, Ernst, Jamison Road; Schifferstein, Andrew, Elma  
Dingman, Edwin H., Jamison Centre.  
Road;

### GRISTMILLS.

Greiss, Michael, Blossom; Northrup, Eli B., Spring Brook.  
Hurd, Harvey J., Elma Village;

### GROCERS.

Hesse, Adolf F., Bowen and  
Bullis Roads; Sommers, Charles, Elma Centre;  
Jasel, Christ, Bowen and Clin- Spencer, Adelbert, Spring Brook.  
ton Street;

### LUMBER AND FEED.

Schifferstein, Andrew, Elma Centre.

### MEAT MARKETS.

Hesse, Adolf F., Bowen and Klas, Joseph, Spring Brook.  
Bullis Roads;

### MERCHANTS.

Barnett, Richard T., Spring Dingman, Edwin H., Jamison  
Brook; Road;  
Burman, Charles, East Elma; Ford, Mrs. Asa, Elma Centre;  
Bleeck, Ernst, Jamison Road; Herlan, F. T., Blossom;  
Reuther, Louis P., Elma Village.

### POSTMASTERS.

Bleeck, Ernst, Jamison Road; Hensel, Conrad P., Blossom;  
Burman, Charles, East Elma; Reuther, Louis P., Elma Village;  
Ford, Mrs. Emilie, Elma Centre; Tillou, Harrison L., Spring Brook.

### SAWMILLS.

Harvey J. Hurd, Elma Village; Northrup, Eli B., Spring Brook.

## SALOONS.

Baker, W. G., Spring Brook;	Mary, Jacob, Schmaltz and Clin-
Bleeck, Ernst, Jamison Road;	ton Street;
Grader, Peter, Elma Centre;	Nosbisch, Matthias, Bowen and
Jasel, Christ, Bowen and Clinton	Bullis Roads;
Street Roads;	Sugg, Nicholas, Blossom;
Leger, Louis and William, Spring	Wilhelm, Alex, Blossom.
Brook;	

Jerge Brothers in connection with their blacksmith shop in Elma Village, have a machine shop with steam power where they manufacture heavy and light wagons of many styles, buggies, carriages, sleighs, farm tools, etc., etc., and joining their factory building they have a large paint shop and store house. They are also agents for all kinds of farm implements and machinery.

Louis P. Reuther is agent for the Page Wire Fence Co., and for farm tools and machinery, with wind mills in addition.

Charles H. Sweet of Spring Brook has a good assortment of farm implements and machinery, fertilizers, etc., etc., to accommodate the farmers of that locality.

Patrick Phelan's barn in Spring Brook, on the lot at the corner of the Davis and Aurora Plank Roads burned Friday morning, November 30th, 1900, nothing saved. Insurance on building \$300, contents \$204.

Thomas D. Williams died December 1st, 1900, age 73 years, 9 months and 13 days. He has lived since April 10th, 1828, on Lot 15 of Mile Strip, and in the same house that his father, Isaac Williams built just after he moved on that lot. That house had been his only home for more than 72 years.

In the latter part of December 1900, Judge Emery, of the Erie County Court, ordered the toll gate at the City Line, of the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Co. thrown open and no more tolls to be collected; as the plank had become so worn, rotten and broken, that it was impossible to safely go over the road with heavy loads. The other gate one mile southeast from Spring Brook was opened for the same cause. This road was completed in the fall of 1849.

The lattice bridge across the Cazenove Creek at Northrup's mills in Spring Brook, known as the Northrup bridge, which was built in the summer of 1861, was condemned as being unsafe, by Fred Luders, the Commissioner of Highways for the Town of Elma, December 1900.

December 1900 closes with the ground frozen, roads smooth and four inches of snow at midnight, December 31st. Temperature 30°. Buffalo is having a great and noisy celebration. This closes the year 1900, the nineteenth century, and this history of the Town of Elma as written by Warren Jackman, his age at the time being 78 years, 9 months, 11 days.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### ROADS AND HIGHWAYS IN THE TOWN OF ELMA.

Before the Town of Elma was formed, December 4th, 1856, most of the roads were laid out by the Commissioner of Highways of the towns of Aurora and Lancaster.

When the town was fully organized in order to have a proper record of the roads of the town, recourse was had to the records of roads in the town clerk's office of Aurora and Lancaster. The descriptions of many of the Elma roads were found to be very indefinite and imperfect.

The Commissioners of Highways of the Town of Elma ordered a re-survey, and re-description of the imperfectly described roads and later, several new roads were laid out, and as many alterations and discontinuations of roads or parts of roads had in a few years been made, the records became so mixed up that in many instances it was found to be impossible to locate some of the roads from the best that could be learned from the records.

In October 1889, on the petition of Eli Northrup, Supervisor of Elma, the Board of Supervisors ordered the Commissioner of Highways of the Town of Elma to have a survey made of such roads as were so imperfect in description and have a revision of the records of roads so to as have a correct record. The surveys were made, the records revised and the Commissioner completed his work by signing the new records February 15th, 1890.

Most of the roads when laid out had been given the names of some prominent old settler or resident on the new road and, in some cases, when alterations or additions had been made a new name would be given and so it came to pass that some of the roads were called by two or more names.

The Town Board directed that in the revision, so far as possible, the roads should be given the name of an old resident on the road and in that way help to keep the names of some of the old early settlers in remembrance.

This plan was adopted and the roads were so entered in the records and are known by these names.

NAME OF ROAD.	NAME OF RESIDENT.
Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road.....	
Adams Road .....	Luther Adams
Baker Road .....	Salem Baker
Barto Road .....	Jesse Barto
Billington Road .....	Stickney Billington
Blood Road .....	Horace Blood
Blossom Road .....	Blossom Village
Bowen Road.....	
Bullis Road .....	Lewis M. Bullis
Central Road.....	
Chair Factory Road.....	
Clinton Street Road.....	
Conley, or Toll Gate Road.....	
Davis Road .....	James Davis
Ebenezer Village Road.....	
Elma Cemetery Road.....	
Girdled Road.....	
Griffin Road .....	John Griffin
Hemstreet Road .....	Z. A. Hemstreet
Hill Road .....	Zenas Hill
Jamison Road.....	
Kinsley Road .....	Stephen Kinsley
Knaab Road .....	Jacob Knaab
Lancaster Town Line Road.....	
Marilla Town Line Road.....	
North Star Road.....	
Northrup Road.....	Lewis Northrup
Ostrander Road.....	John W. Ostrander
Paxon Road.....	Henry Paxon
Pound Road.....	Samuel Pound
Rice Road.....	Wm. M. Rice
Rickertson Road.....	James B. Rickertson
Schmaltz Road.....	John Schmaltz
Schultz Road.....	Philip Schultz
Seneca Creek Road.....	
Standart Road.....	George Standart
Stolle Road.....	Christian Stolle
Thompson Road.....	Joseph Thompson
Williams Road.....	Isaac Williams
Winspear Road.....	Wm. Winspear
Woodard Road.....	Eron Woodard



The roads as named and their locations are here given.

**AURORA AND BUFFALO PLANK ROAD**—Four rods wide. Begins on the Aurora town line at the corner of Lots No. 21 and 26 of the Mile Strip, thence northwesterly on lot lines, through Spring Brook to the Transit line at the corner of Lots No. 96 and 97 of the Aurora part of Elma. The road across the Mile Strip was laid out April 21st, 1832, and from the Mile Strip to the Transit line, March 31st, 1834, but this survey was changed somewhat when Sperry surveyed the lands for the Ogden Company, so that the road should be on the lot lines as he surveyed them in 1840.

**ADAMS ROAD**—Four rods wide. Luther Adams. Begins at the Marilla town line, on the east line of Lot 2 of the Mile Strip, near the bridge across the Big Buffalo Creek, thence westerly to the Girdled Road on the west line of Lot 11, at a point 83 links north from the corner of Lots 12 and 13. Road laid out June 15th, 1832; re-surveyed July 13th, 1839.

**SALEM BARKER ROAD**—Four rods wide. Begins on the Aurora town line at the southwest corner of Lot 6 of Mile Strip, thence east to the Marilla town line, thence north on the town line to the east end of the Adams Road near the bridge. First laid out August 23d, 1843.

**BARTO ROAD**—Three rods wide—Jesse Barto. Begins on the Marilla town line at the east end of the Adams Road, thence across the Big Buffalo Creek and northeast, and north and northwest to the east end of the Hemstreet Road, 38 links north from the southeast corner of Lot No. 4; also from a few rods easterly from the east end of the Hemstreet Road, thence northerly to the northeast corner of Lot No. 4. First laid out May 4th, 1853.

**BILLINGTON ROAD**—Three rods wide—Stickney Billington. Begins at the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road, at the corner of Lots 21, 25, 26 and 28 of the Mile Strip, thence east on lot lines to a point in the line between Lots 13 and 14, five chains east from the northwest corner of Lot 14 and across the railroad lands, and near the Matthew Hansenberg house, formerly the residence of Willard Fairbanks. First laid out April 21st, 1832.

**BLOOD ROAD**—Four rods wide—Horace Blood. Begins in the center of the Girdled Road at the west end of the Adams Road, thence west to the Plank Road at the corner of Lots 24, 25, 28 and 29 of the Mile Strip. First laid out January 15th, 1832; re-surveyed July 13th, 1839.

**BLOSSOM ROAD**—Four rods wide—Blossom Village. Begins in the Clinton Street Road on the south line of Lot No. 96 of the Lancaster part of Elma, thence southwesterly to and across the Blossom bridge over the Big Buffalo Creek, and southerly, most of

the way on Lot lines to the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road at the corner of Lots 90, 91, 96 and 97 of the Aurora part of Elma. First laid out as the Dr. Jake Road April 29th, 1848, from Clinton Street Road to Upper Ebenezer Village, now Blossom, and from Ebenezer Village south on April 2d, 1849.

**BOWEN ROAD**—Four rodswide. Begins on the Lancaster town line near the center of the north line of Lot 56 of the Lancaster part of Elma, thence southerly through Elma Village and Elma Centre, most of the way on lot lines, to the Aurora town line on the south line of Lot 20 of the Mile Strip. First laid out across the Ogden Company's last purchase, October 23d, 1841, by Commissioners appointed by Act of Legislature, dated May 4th, 1841, and across the Mile Strip by the Aurora Commissioners of Highways October 29th, 1841.

**BULLIS ROAD**—Four rods wide.—Lewis M. Bullis. Begins on the Marilla town line at the corner of Lots 3 and 4 of the Lancaster part of Elma, and lots 8 and 13, of the Alden part of Marilla, thence west on lot lines, except for crossing the Big Buffalo Creek at the Bullis bridge to the Transit line at the southwest corner of Lot 380 of Ebenezer survey. First laid out west of the creek September 21st, 1845, and east of the creek February 26th, 1849.

**CENTRAL ROAD**—Four rods wide. Begins in the center of the Blossom Road, at the northeast corner of Lot No. 383, of the Ebenezer survey, thence west on the north line of Lot 383 to the Transit. First surveyed and laid out April 9th, 1858.

**CHAIR FACTORY ROAD**.—Four rods wide.—Begins in the Girdled Road at the corner of Lots 21, 22, 28 and 29 of the Lancaster part of Elma, thence west to the Bowen Road near the south end of the bridge over the Big Buffalo Creek in Elma Village. First laid out September 10th, 1847.

**CLINTON STREET ROAD**—Four rods wide. Begins at the Marilla town line at the corner of Lots 1 and 2 in the Town of Elma, and 1 and 5 in Marilla, thence west to the Transit line. First laid out west of the Bowen Road June 2d, 1845, and east of the Bowen Road June 10th, 1847.

**CONLEY, OR TOLL GATE ROAD**—Three rods wide. Begins on the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road, a little west of the Toll gate, on Lot 77 of the Aurora part of Elma, thence southwest to the south line of said lot No. 77, thence west to the Davis Road on said lot. Laid out February 16th, 1852.

**DAVIS ROAD**—Four rods wide.—James Davis. Begins on the Aurora town line on south line of Lot 32 of Mile Strip near the school house, thence northerly to the Plank Road in Spring Brook near the west end of Lot 71. First laid out June 20th, 1842.

EBENEZER (Blossom) VILLAGE ROAD—Four rods wide.—Begins in Ebenezer (Blossom) Village near the southwest end of the bridge across the creek, thence westerly to the Transit line. First laid out April 9th, 1858.

ELMA CEMETERY ROAD—Three Rods wide. Begins in the Bowen Road in Elma Village, thence west to the range of the west line of the Elma cemetery. First laid out July 11th, 1891.

GIRDLED ROAD—Four rods wide. Begins on the Lancaster town line at the corner of Lots 19 and 26, thence south mostly on lot lines to Aurora town line at the corner of Lots 10 and 14 of Mile Strip. First laid out in the Lancaster part of Elma November 10th, 1841, and in Aurora part June 13th, 1843.

GRIFFIN ROAD—Three rods wide.—John W. Griffin. Begins at the corner of Lots 16, 17, 22, 23 of the Aurora part of Elma, thence west on lot line to the Girdled Road.

HEMSTREET ROAD—Three rods wide.—Z. A. Hemstreet. Begins on the Marilla town line, thirty-eight links north from the southeast corner of Lot 4 of the Aurora part of Elma, thence northwesterly to the Jamison Road at East Elma. First laid out April 19th, 1845.

HILL ROAD—Four rods wide.—Zenas Hill. Begins in Clinton Street Road at the corner of Lots 9, 10 13, 14, thence south on lot lines to the Bullis Road at the corner of Lots 11, 12, 16, 17. First laid out December 6th, 1847.

JAMISON ROAD—Four rods wide—Begins on the Marilla town line at the corner of Lots 3 and 4 in the Aurora part of Elma, and 9 and 13 in the Wales part of Marilla, thence west through East Elma and Jamison to the Plank Road at the corner of Lots 63, 68, 72, 77. First laid out April 19th, 1845.

KINSLEY ROAD—Three rods wide—Stephen Kinsley. Begins on the Transit line at the corner of Lots 99 and 100 of the Aurora part of Elma, thence east on lots lines to the Northrup Road.

KNAAB ROAD—Four rods wide—Jacob Knaab. Begins in the Standart Road at the corner of Lots 72, 73, 77, 78, thence west on lot lines to the Winspear Road at the corner of Lots 82, 83, 87, 88.

LANCASTER TOWN LINE ROAD—Four rods wide. Begins at the northwest corner of Lot No. 5 of the Lancaster part of Elma, thence west on the town line to Cyrus Hurd's northeast corner on Lot 61.

MARILLA TOWN LINE ROAD—Three rods wide. Begins at the northeast corner of the town of Elma, thence south mostly along the Marilla town line to the Bullis Road.

NORTH STAR ROAD—Three rods wide. Begins in the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road on the north line of the Mile Strip at the corner of lots 24 and 29, of the Mile Strip and lots 64 and 73 of the

Aurora part of the last purchase, thence west on lot lines to the Davis Road.

OSTRANDER ROAD—Three rods wide—John W. Ostrander.—

Begins at the east end of the Griffin Road, and corner of Lots 16, 17, 22, 23, thence south to the Adams Road on Lot 8 of the Mile Strip. First laid out December 4th, 1857.

NORTHROP ROAD—Four rods wide—Lewis Northrup. Begins in the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road on the north line of Lot 84 and a little west of the west end of Lot 75 in Spring Brook Village, thence southwesterly across the Cazenove Creek and on to the Transit line at the northwest corner of Lot 102, thence south along the Transit to the east and west road, thence east across Lot 102, thence southerly, on, to, and across the Mile Strip to the Aurora town line and south line of Lot 37 of the Mile Strip. First laid out February 29th, 1848; altered December 21st, 1848.

PAXON ROAD—Four rods wide—Henry Paxon. Begins on Transit line near the middle of the west line of Lot 36 of the Mile Strip, thence east to the Northrup Road near the middle of said Lot No. 36.

POUND ROAD—Four rods wide—Samuel Pound. From the Bullis Road at the corner of Lots 89, 90, 94, 95, thence south to north line of lot 75, thence west to the Plank Road at west corner of Lot 75 in Spring Brook Village. First laid out September 19th, 1845.

RICE ROAD—Four rods wide—William M. Rice. From the Girdled Road at the corner of Lots 21, 22, 28, 29, thence west to the Plank Road at the Catholic church in Spring Brook. First laid out April 19th, 1845.

RICKERTSON ROAD—Four rods wide—James B. Rickertson. From the Aurora town line at corner of Lots 6, 8, thence north about twenty-five chains to James B. Rickertson's land on Lot 8 of the Mile Strip.

SCHMALTZ ROAD—Four rods wide—John Schmaltz. From the Clinton Street Road near the angle on Lot 86, thence north to the Lancaster town line. This is the south part of the road that has been known in the town of Lancaster as the New England Road; now they call it the Aurora Road.

SCHULTZ ROAD—Four rods wide—Philip Schultz. From the Jamison Road near the corner of Lots 38, 39, 42, 43, thence north to the Woodard Road on the line between Lots 40 and 45 at the Lutheran church. First laid out October 1st, 1852.

SENECA CREEK ROAD—Four rods wide. From the Blossom Road at the corner of Lots 388, 390, 391 of Ebenezer survey, thence west to the Transit line. First laid out April 9th, 1858.



STANDART ROAD—Three rods wide—George Standart. From the Bullis Road at the corner of Lots 74, 75, 79, 80, thence north to the Clinton Street Road at the corner of Lots 71, 72, 76, 77. First laid out January 9th, 1858.

STOLLE ROAD—Three rods wide—Christian Stolle. From a point in the Marilla town line one chain north from the southeast corner of Lot No. 1, of the Aurora part of Elma, thence northwesterly to the Bullis Road at the corner of Lots 11, 12, 16, 17. First laid out November 13th, 1856.

THOMPSON ROAD—Three rods wide—Joseph Thompson. From the Jamison Road at East Elma, thence northerly to the Stolle Road on Lot 1.

WILLIAMS ROAD—Four rods wide—Isaac Williams. From the Jamison Road at the corner of Lots 38, 39, 42, 43, thence south to the Aurora town line on south line of Lot 15 of Mile Strip. First laid out April 21st, 1832; altered April 2nd, 1849, and again north part October 1st, 1852.

WINSPEAR ROAD—Four rods wide—William Winspear. From the Bullis Road at the corner of Lots 89, 90, 94, 95, thence northerly across the Big Buffalo Creek and to the Clinton Street Road on line between Lots 81 and 86. First laid out February 26th, 1849; altered October 14th, 1850.

WOODARD ROAD—Three rods wide—Eron Woodard. From the Bowen Road at Elma Centre, thence easterly to the Girdled Road at a point ten chains eighty-two links south from the corner of Lots 23, 24, 29, 30, at the Bullis Road.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### NAMES OF PERSONS AND DATE OF MARRIAGE.

Alphabetical list of some persons who have lived in the Town of Elma, with date of marriage.

Adams, John	and May K. Walker	Jan. 15, 1824
" Charles	" Grace Anderson	Aug. 10, 1883
" Delatus K.	" Harriet Chamberlain	Sept. 2, 1865
" Deviller W.	" Mary Wright	July 4, 1862
" Mortimer P.	" Eliza Fairbanks	Apr. 6, 1851
" Walter E.	" Mary E. Warren	Jan. 11, 1892
Allen Anthony, Jr.	" Mary Cuthbert	June 7, 1868
" Ellery S.	" Emily Lawton	Sept. 6, 1848
" Harry O.	" Catharine Rowley	March 22, 1897
" Henry P.	" Alice E. Dingman	May 15, 1863
" James	" Edwina Palmer	July 30, 1881
" Silas H.	" Josinah Frost	Nov. 20, 1846
Anstett, Bernard M.	" Mary A. Ebert	April 26, 1892
Armburst, Louis	" Mary M. Schultz	April 20, 1874
Arndt, Fred	" Mary Smith	Oct. 19, 1872
" John	" Augusta Rosendahl	Jan. 27, 1881
" Joseph	Sophia Karten	April 1, 1865
Awauld, John	" Margaret Phalen	1881

### B.

Bacon, Hiram	and Mary Hurd	Oct. 1861
Badger, Albert	" Lizzie Marks	Feb. 9, 1893
Baker, Rev. Chauncey S.	" Mrs. Julia F. Clark	May 25, 1876
" Flavius J.	" Harriet A. Howard	May 3, 1871
" William	" Mary Washburn	Nov. 7, 1882
" William N.	" Lucia A. Morris	Dec. 24, 1862
Bancroft Albert C.	" Jane E. Hare	April 24, 1854
" Alonzo C.	" Jane Sleeper	Sept. 2, 1849
" " " (Golden)	" "	" 2, 1899
" Eleazer	" E. S. A. Bissell	1830
" Henry E.	" Emma L. Blackman	Dec. 19, 1867
" Joseph W.	" Sarah Kimball	1853
" William H.	" Eliza Covell	April 27, 1843
Bantle George	" Estella Munger	Jan. 1, 1891

Barnard, Hubert J.	and Elsie M. Curtis	Aug. 12, 1896
Barnett, John	" Anne Wannemacher	May 16, 1883
" Richard T.	" Ella M. Vigueron	June 10, 1891
Becker, Adolph	" Mary Hacker	Nov. 26, 1885
" Fred	" Susie Thayer	March 15, 1899
" John	" Martha Davis	Aug. 2, 1896
" Louis, Sr.	" Sophia Schroeder	Dec. 1863
" Louis Jr.	" Maria Garby	July 24, 1887
" William	" Minnie Hacker	1886
Beckman, Joseph	" Eliza Phillips	July 10, 1857
Beidler, Henry	" Mrs. Dorothea Young	July 12, 1855
Bippert, George W.	" Pauline Kost	Aug. 17, 1884
Board, Robert C.	" Minnie Wilbor	June 25, 1885
Bodamer, Philip	" Mrs. Christina Gipple	July 4, 1860
Bogart, William T.	" Luella A. Stetson	June 28, 1878
Bridgman, Marcus	" Mary Haas	Jan. 5, 1881
Briggs, Albert H.	" America Baker	June 7, 1863
" Carlton C.	" Alice J. Tillou	Oct. 4, 1882
" Charles S.	" Clelly Avery	Sept. 20, 1886
" Cortland C.	" Mabel Morgan	June 15, 1893
" George D.	" Adelpha Chase	Nov. 5, 1868
" J. Eddy	" Lucy Lee Hurd	June 10, 1895
" Joseph B.	" Altha Wilbor	Oct. 28, 1841
" " " (Golden)	" " "	Oct. 28, 1891
" Wilbor B.	" Mrs. Angie R. Day	June 12, 1867
" "	" Adelia Chase	Oct. 4, 1900
Brown, Caleb F.	" Elsie Bancroft	March 28, 1877
" Jeremiah W.	" Sophronia A. Foster	Oct. 11, 1846
Buffum, Charles J.	" Julia Whittemore	Oct. 13, 1878
" David	" Phebe Freeman	July 1, 1851
" "	" Eliza Ard	Nov. 8, 1863
" "	" Mrs. Sarah House	July 23, 1893
Bullis Seth M.	" Mary Scott	March 13, 1833
Burman, Fred T.	" Julia Bauder	April 21, 1885

### C.

Carman, John	and Mary Elderton	May 5, 1846
Carpenter, Frank	" Hattie Becker	Nov. 16, 1899
Carroll, Edward	" Elizabeth Kingston	June 22, 1898
Centner, Fred	" Ella Arndt	Nov. 27, 1895
Chesbro George	" Ella Sisler	March 28, 1878
Church, Horace D.	" Nirah V. Hatch	Dec. 25, 1894
Clark, Elon	" Julia F. Standart	May 12, 1851
" Joseph F.	" Rachel E. Jackman	Nov. 18, 1845
" Myron H.	" Eliza Bancroft	May 24, 1876

Clark, Oliver C.	and Martha Wilbor	Aug. 13, 1846
Cobb, Zenas M.	" Lucinda Rockwood	May 15, 1845
Cole, Daniel F.	" Mary Fones	1812
" John W.	" Marion Bullis	Nov. 27, 1851
" Salathiel	" Elizabeth Fones	1807
Collins, John	" Jannett Davis	Jan. 16, 1877
Conley, Bernard, Sr.	" Margaret McHugh	Jan. 29, 1853
" " Jr.	" Matilda Manning	June 1, 1892
" Cornelius	" Mary Donohue	June 24, 1890
" John	" Maggie E. Connors	May 26, 1886
" Patrick	" Mary Ryan	Dec. 25, 1857
" William	" Emily Wannemacker	April 21, 1879
" "	" Helena Oshea	Oct. 17, 1888
Cotton, William	" Esther Cole	Nov. 26, 1895
Crane, Charles E.	" Josephine L. Briggs	Oct. 17, 1899
Curtis, Albert	" Julia Sutton	Dec. 14, 1882
" Frank	" Mary Curtis	March 4, 1885
" Stephen	" Maria Pierce	July 16, 1850

#### D.

Darcey, John	and Lovina Morris	Feb. 23, 1860
" John C.	" Mayme Jones	Aug. 7, 1901
Davis, Albert H.	" Jane L. Bowie	Jan. 19, 1860
" Charles	" Lillie E. Chilcott	Nov. 30, 1893
" James	" Caroline Chadderdon	April 13, 1828
" James C.	" Harriet Harvey	Feb. 18, 1871
" William H.	" Sarah C. Wood	Feb. 11, 1855
" " "	" Sarah Hawley	Feb. 4, 1867
Dingman, Edwin H.	" Rose Carman	Jan. 1, 1867
" Harry	" Aurelia Clapp	Feb. 7, 1841
Domon, August	" Rose Klein	Nov. 27, 1875
" Charles	" Mrs. Josephine Geydie	June 5, 1888
Dorris, Fred McBride	" Alice J. Markham	Dec. 20, 1899
Drosendahl, August	" Nellie Darcey	Sept. 26, 1895
Dubois, Arthur	" Emma C. Stahl	Nov. 4, 1897
Dulewiler, Frederick	" Sarah Hensel	June 7, 1899
Dutton, Albert	" Estella Davis	Jan. 10, 1884
Dusch, Alois	" Eugenia Irr	May 2, 1882

#### E.

Eckert, Gustav Otto	and Maria L. Ludeman	April 24, 1889
" Jacob	" Charlotte C. Winters	Jan. 19, 1896
Edenhoffer, John	" Elizabeth Jerge	March 4, 1886
Eiss, Cornelius	" Mary Mohn	Dec. 20, 1877
Eldridge, Benjamin J.	" Jessie L. Hines	Dec. 31, 1896



Ellis, George	and Cora Backus	July 14, 1881
" Herman	" Mary Kilburn	Aug. 1883
" James, Sr.	" Mary Peek	Jan. 1, 1851
" James Jr.	" Helen Redman	Oct. 1892

#### F.

Fairbanks, Scott	and Catharine Perry	Oct. 10, 1852
" Willard	" Mahala Blood	July 4, 1840
Fisher, Cornelius	" Minnie Stahl	May 21, 1890
Flynn, Michael	" Catharine Phalen	Feb. 25, 1857
Foster, W. M.	" Bertha M. Lougee	March 24, 1895
Fowler, Delos	" Mrs. Naomi Smith	Feb. 22, 1887

#### G.

Garby, Christopher	and Christine Steinhagn	Nov. 1856
" John	" Eliza Zimmerman	Nov. 16, 1865
Gest, Charles	" Minnie Christen	Nov. 23, 1876
Geyer, Joseph	" Cecelia Uebelhoer	June 16, 1898
Gibson, Walter J.	" Clara E. Ramsdell	April 4, 1866
Gloss, Balthazzer	" Pauline Gornflo	Feb. 15, 1870
" William	" Mrs. Julia L. Armstrong	Dec. 17, 1895
Goddard, Abram S.	" Stella E. Howard	Oct. 29, 1874
Grace, Howard	" Harriet Weatherlow	April 1899
" James J.	" Clara E. Adams	April 5, 1870
" Joseph	" Jane Kinsey	1834
" "	" Betsey Davis	Nov. 27, 1848
" Joseph W.	" Martha Lexo	April 26, 1900
" William W.	" Ellen Ward	Dec. 20, 1865
Grader, Peter	" Anna D. Luders	Feb. 24, 1885
Gramm, Frederick H.	" Minnie Kleberg	Aug. 23, 1865
Green, George W.	" Mary Markham	May 2, 1867
" Samuel	" Prudence B. Hodgeman	1843
Greiss, Michael	" Lena Stafon	March 11, 1882
Griffin, J. Leander	" May Ball	Dec. 24, 1890

#### H.

Haas, Albert	" Mrs. Rose Miller	1893
" Charles	" Jennie Armstrong	July 4, 1888
Hackenheimer, John	" Catharine Weinheimer	July 1876
Hafner, Joseph	" Mrs. Catharine Jerge	Oct. 11, 1873
Hagmeier, George	" Jennie Wier	Feb. 24, 1894
" Henry	" Emma Silleman	April 20, 1892
" Jacob	" Catharine Boyer	June 2, 1854
" Louis	" Ethel Cline	Feb. 22, 1898

Hall, Charles	and Mary Martin	June 7, 1899
Hammersmith, Peter	" Nettie V. Kyser	Dec. 14, 1881
Handy, Wm. A.	" Julia Standart	July 4, 1874
Hansenberg, Matthew	" Mahala A. Fairbanks	Dec. 28, 1872
Hardy, Augustin F.	" Minnie Maurer	Dec. 8, 1898
Hatch, Frank	" Bertha Allen	Dec. 25, 1887
" James	" Elvira Chesbro	Sept. 1856
" Leonard	" Amy Hemstreet	Feb. 1831
" Niles	" Sarah Titus	July 1, 1868
Hazel Charles	" Elizabeth Summerfield	Feb. 6, 1890
Head, Edward	" Mamey Dorsey	June 2, 1891
" James	" Catharine Morris	May 9, 1853
" Thomas	" Helen Garvey	June 5, 1888
Heim, Frederick	" Frederika Dorn	Feb. 3, 1859
" Franklin E.	" Lizzie H. Boonk	June 27, 1894
" George	" Catharine Heller	Feb. 16, 1887
" Jacob	" Christina Dorn	Jan. 29, 1861
Heinemann, Peter	" Catharine Mitzel	July 2, 1868
Heitman, Charles	" Anna Kock	March 29, 1881
" Fred Jr.	" Joanna Garby	Dec. 4, 1883
Hensel, Conrad P.	" Salome Sand	Feb. 29, 1861
" George J.	" Barbara Kramp	June 22, 1894
Herlan, Frank T.	" Louise L. Bowman	Dec. 20, 1875
" Isaac H	" Matilda Hensel	March 26, 1885
" William	" Elizabeth Meyer	March 27, 1883
" "	" Lucy Heinemann	Oct. 5, 1899
Hesse, Adolph F.	" Louise Jasel	April 5, 1888
" August	" Lizzie Gemmer	Sept. 8, 1892
" Herman G.	" Margaret Grobe	April 7, 1861
" Hermon	" Maria H. Wanglien	April 9, 1889
Heximer, Franklin S.	" Minnie Steck	June 30, 1898
Hill, Cyrus	" Ellen Taber	Feb. 16, 1868
" Morris	" Isabel Montgomery	Dec. 21, 1881
Hines, Solon	" Fanny Fairbanks	Jan. 16, 1876
" Thomas	" Martha J. Kelly	1857
" Willard F.	" Lizzie Lippert	March 4, 1901
Hodgkins, Herbert J.	" Amelia Bodamer	May 5, 1891
" Jacob	" Sarah E. Matthews	Jan. 9, 1853
Hohmon, Henry	" Anna Shane	1860
Hopkins, Ulysses	" Lydia Steck	June 30, 1898
Hopper, James, Sr.	" Amanda Eldridge	March 13, 1856
" " Jr.	" Alice Chilcott	Nov. 25, 1897
Hornung, Max	" Amelia Gornflo	Aug. 1862
" William	" Mary Kroman	Nov. 10, 1859
Hoth, Walter	" Lizzie Becker	Feb. 28, 1891

Howard, Albert	and Clara Little	April 1873
" Frederick	" Harriet E. Mabie	Oct. 25, 1881
" Gibson	" Charlotte Briggs	June 24, 1888
" Marcus A.	" Maria M. Whitney	Jan. 8, 1839
Huebert, Charles T.	" Julia Walker	July 4, 1901
Hunt, Joseph	" Catharine Whitney	Oct. 19, 1874
Hurd, Allen J.	" Minnie Lankler	Oct. 1893
" Burton H.	" Fanny M. Willett	April 15, 1896
" Charles A.	" Mary Miller	April 16, 1867
" Clark	" Pauline Avery	April 17, 1901
" Clark W.	" Dulcena Clark	April 4, 1837
" " " Golden	" " "	April 4, 1887
" Dennis C.	and Mary Adams	Feb. 1, 1861
" Harvey J. 2d	" Pearl M. White	Sept. 5, 1893
" James T.	" Fanny Healy	Aug. 18, 1863
" Ross	" Louise Lambkin	Aug. 9, 1863
" Cyrus	" Cordelia Hill	April 7, 1848
" "	" Alma S. Ashman	April 13, 1854
" George W.	" Mary E. Anderson	March 10, 1875

#### J.

Jackman, James R.	and Gracia E. Beardsley	June 23, 1816
" James R. 2d	" Rena Burt	Aug. 12, 1886
" Warren	" Malenda Blodgett	May 6, 1844
" "	" Julia Amanda Harris	April 4, 1883
" William J.	" Frances Markham	April 20, 1854
Jasel, Christ	" Rachel Serde	Dec. 12, 1868
Jerge, Casper	" Mrs. Catharine Schaffer	Dec. 25, 1865
" Hermon P.	" Ellen Sutton	Feb. 25, 1886
" Jacob	" Josephene Hesse	June 18, 1853
" "	" Mrs. Helen Jerge	April 16, 1888
" Philip	" Lena Geyer	Sept. 18, 1884

#### K.

Kannengaiser, John H.	and Abbia E. Wedemeyer	Sept. 19, 1895
Kelly, Fred	" Mary Walker	Feb. 4, 1899
Kester, Frank	" Margaret Sisler	June 19, 1889
Kihm, Henry	" Jane A. Marvel	Jan. 26, 1876
Kingston, John	" Julia Hollern	July 22, 1863
" Paul	" Nettie Tackelberry	May 24, 1893
" William	" Edith Conley	April 20, 1899
Kinney, Jireh	" Grace Lathrop	Sept. 9, 1869
Klas, Joseph	" May Lines	July 14, 1887
Klein, Frank	" Anna Bodecker	Feb. 14, 1881
" Joseph	" Eva Halter	1851

Kleinfelder, Henry	and Matilda Brandt	Sept. 18, 1891
Klehm, Henry	" Mary Haas	May 11, 1856
" Adolph T.	" Ella C. Luders	Dec. 5, 1895
Kock, Fred	" Maria Mayer	Jan. 2, 1869
" Gustav	" Augusta Gramm	Oct. 9, 1884
" Jacob	" Margaret Handel	April 26, 1876
" John	" Dulthen Young	Nov. 23, 1869
Krohn, George	" Esther Heximer	April 29, 1890
" John	" Hannah Yargo	1848
Krouse, George	" Mary Seifert	May 8, 1845
Kyser, Horace	" Jane Northrup	May 8, 1844

#### L.

Ladd, Henry Clay	and Ella Clark	Feb. 16, 1881
Lathrop, Chase	" Alberta Emory	Feb. 21, 1889
" Herbert	" Emma Van Vleet	Dec. 2, 1874
" Paul B.	" Laura Chase	Feb. 5, 1841
Lee, R. Porter	" Jennie F. Blanchard	June 3, 1874
Leger, George, Sr.	" Maria Gerring	May 1850
" " Jr.	" Catharine Rollins	Aug. 19, 1878
" Walter	" Emma Gould	Nov. 1, 1891
Lexo, Henry	" Minnie Stolle	April 10, 1876
Lockwood, Charles	" Molly Curtman	July 22, 1894
Lougee, Benjamin P.	" Olive Monroe	1832
" Dr. L. B.	" Jennie T. Adams	June 10, 1896
" Wm. Valorus	" Olive J. Monroe	May 7, 1867
Ludemon, George	" Mary Brandt	Dec. 5, 1884
Luders, Fred C.	" Minnie E. Stolle	June 26, 1889
" John	" Sophia Kock	Jan. 12, 1863
" John Wm. T.	" Julia M. Sandall	Dec. 12, 1894

#### M.

Markham, Charles	and Ada M. Lord	June 16, 1880
" Erastus J.	" Philura Chapman	June 16, 1853
Marks, Andrew	" Susan Griffin	Nov. 12, 1889
Marquart, George	" Anna M. Zubrick	April 30, 1874
Marshall, Julius	" Georgiana VanAntwerpt	Dec. 18 1880
Marvel, Alfred	" Lana Davis	April 12, 1846
Mary, Jacob	" Barbara Shill	Oct. 30, 1877
Mason, Rev. George	" Laura E. Phillimore	June 20, 1883
Mau, Herman H.	" Ida M. Luders	June 4, 1891
Maurer, Frederick	" Mary Eichelberger	March 20, 1855
Mayer, Jacob	" Catharine Gula	Feb. 17, 1844
" John	" Amanda Herlan	June 13, 1900
" Louis	" Charlotte D. C. Gramm	Nov. 24, 1887



Mc Fee, Hugh	and Abigail Baker	April 8, 1874
Mc Donald, Albert	" Emma Woodard	Sept. 14, 1877
" James C.	" Charlotte A. Foster	May 29, 1875
" " "	" Florence A. Waldron	May 13, 1899
McHugh, Cornelius, Sr.	" Catharine McNeer	1857
McMullen, John	" Mary Ann Cassiday	June 27, 1867
McPherson, Dr. George W.	Susan M. Wallace	Oct. 30, 1867
Metcalf, Frank	" Nettie Hibbard	1878
" Spencer	" Eva Pierce	Dec. 18, 1875
Miller, John	" Catharine Young	April 17, 1887
" S. Wheaton	" Lucelia M. Briggs	June 18, 1901
Mitchell, Joshua	" Susan Ballenger	1858
Morath, George	" Tillie Gombo	Feb. 20, 1897
" Michael	" Mary Steckman	April 23, 1870
Morgan, Richard	" Nellie Bancroft	Sept. 17, 1896
Mohn, Henry	" Mary M. Goetz	April 13, 1875
" Jacob	" Catharine M. Reichert	Feb. 1849
Morris, Charles	" May Garlock	Feb. 22, 1884
" David J.	" Lydia M. Knapp	May 1, 1839
" Lafayette	" Amanda Graves	Aug. 8, 1854
" Udelmer F.	" Julia G. Grace	Aug. 26, 1872
Mullin, Hugh	" Jennie McCloy	April 10, 1858
Munger, Fowler	" Diana Mattison	Feb. 1, 1844
" "	" Laura Rowley	May 29, 1860
" Wilbor	" Ella Wiser	July 4, 1887
Murlin, Edgar L.	" Lucelie Briggs	Nov. 10, 1886

#### N.

Neuendorf, John	" Sophia Nuendorf	April 15, 1884
Newber, John	" Augusta Klein	June 9, 1874
" "	" Frances Kissel	June 11, 1890
Nichols, Joshua D.	" Mrs. Maria M. Howard	June 7, 1877
North, Edward	" Sarah Baker	July 26, 1894
Northrup, Charles	" Rebecca E. North	Aug. 31, 1856
" Eli B.	" Emma M. Winspear	Oct. 24, 1866
" " "	" Mary E. Winspear	Oct. 7, 1885
" Stephen	" Almira Dalby	May 1856
" William L.	" Mary E. Davis	Dec. 18, 1889
Nosbisch, Matthias	" Frederika Koster	Aug. 10, 1874
Noyes, Simeon	" Almira Lougee	Sept. 8, 1859
" "	" Dolly Blasdell	Dec. 1, 1867

#### O.

Oberly, Peter	and Catharine Baker	1849
O'Conner, John]	" Mrs. Hanora Corridon	Oct. 1868

O'Neal, W. E.	and Grace Whaley	June 9, 1899
Orton, Darius W.	" Mrs. Rachel E. Clark	Feb. 7, 1860

P.

Palmer, Harvey C.	and Ann Lawton	Dec. 28, 1853
Pattengell, James	" Ellen A. Morris	Feb. 22, 1882
Peck, Clement	" Mary Wilson	Aug. 1867
" Christopher	" Almira Harris	May 1849
" George	" Ann Whistler	Oct. 3, 1811
" James K	" Carrie Baker	Oct. 17, 1888
" John W.	" Savilla Thompson	Jan. 4, 1840
" William	" Sarah McCoy	Jan. 1, 1860
Persons, Ellsworth G.	" Cora E. Vroom	July 1, 1886
" George	" Margaret Kingston	Oct. 3, 1889
Peters, William H.	" Alice O. Markham	Sept. 15, 1865
Phalen, James J.	" Lizzie A. Head	June 7, 1886
" John	" Lizzie Conley	1876
" Patrick	" Ellen Manton	July 6, 1851
Phelps, Myron A.	" Dulcena L. Stetson	April 8, 1874
Phillips, Anthony	" Mary Schwartz	July 3, 1877
" William	" Elizabeth C. Heim	April 27, 1886
Powers, Frank	" Lydia Post	Sept. 14, 1865

R.

Reamer, Charles	and Eliza Barth	Jan. 4, 1883
Reuther, Louis P.	" Nellie Markham	Aug. 20, 1891
" William	" Mary Cimmer	1865
Rice, William M.	" Dolly Whitney	1826
Ronian, Daniel	" Betsey Hatch	June 1, 1853
Rowley, Charles W.	" Harriet D. Hurd	Jan. 18, 1888
" Amos P.	" Carissa Silleman	1836

S.

Schifferstein, Andrew	and Ida Abbel	July 15, 1852
" Andrew F.	" Emma Fisher	Jan. 6, 1881
" Frank	" Minnie Bommer	Oct. 11, 1888
Schlum, Charles	" Mary Haunfelder	Nov. 22, 1877
Schmaltz, John	" Mary Hock	Oct. 2, 1881
" John B.	" Mary E. Heintz	Sept. 12, 1847
Schneider, Thomas	" Anna Garman	May 7, 1889
Schnorr, George H.	" Amelia Cobb	July 29, 1879
Schroeder, Frederick H.	" Sophia Praler	Dec. 7, 1882
Schultz, C. F. W.	" Louise Schifferstein	June 22, 1882
" Jacob	" Theresa Striegel	Feb. 13, 1890

Schultz, John	and Mary B. Schmaltz	May 11, 1880
“ Peter	“ Mary Ann Rush	Nov. 22, 1847
Schurr, Irving T.	“ Alvira C. Fisher	July 28, 1892
“ Karl	“ Catharine Kleinfelder	Sept. 18, 1884
“ Samuel E.	“ Emma L. Stolle	June 26, 1889
Schwab, Frank	“ Carrie Herlan	Nov. 22, 1888
Scott, John	“ Melissa Cole	May 1843
“ “	“ Louise Yeager	April 12, 1880
Seeger, Rev. Micah	“ Mrs. Charlotte Wilbor	Feb. 23, 1859
“ Michael G.	“ Emma M. Hensel	Jan. 31, 1894
Silleman, Frank	“ Delilah Wier	Feb. 14, 1900
Simons, Daniel A.	“ Mary I. Taylor	Dec. 5, 1852
Simmons, Eli	“ Catharine Seamans	July 3, 1851
“ Eugene	“ Catharine A. McCoon	Nov. 10, 1878
Sisler, Charles	“ Kate Adams	July 1888
“ Lewis	“ Cordelia Wheeler	Jan. 16, 1856
Slater, Fred	“ Minnie Brandt	Jan. 18, 1883
“ Joseph	“ Mary Phalen	1878
Smith, Philip	“ Bertha Stolle	Jan. 10, 1894
“ S. W.	“ Ida May Miller	July 15, 1898
“ William	“ Minnie Washer	Nov. 16, 1893
Sommers, August	“ Louise Baker	March 26, 1888
Spaulding, Adelbert D.	“ Margaritte Hawley	Feb. 1, 1892
Spencer, Cyrus S.	“ Elizabeth Warner	June 14, 1840
Stahl, John	“ Amelia Mentz	Nov. 16, 1865
“ John W.	“ Harriet Wise	Oct. 25, 1899
Standart, Clayton J.	“ Mabel Briggs	Dec. 22, 1891
“ Frank W.	“ Elizabeth J. Charles	June 28, 1899
“ Joseph C	“ Sarah L. Markham	Oct. 18, 1860
“ William	“ Olive Draper	Jan. 3, 1820
“ “ Golden	“ “	Jan. 3, 1870
“ Wm. Wesley	“ Barbara E. Hermann	Nov. 6, 1856
Steck, Michael	“ Mary Burch	March 22, 1860
Steffen, Albert	“ Anna Brandt	June 2, 1886
Stetson, Allen	“ Anna Washington	Nov. 7, 1889
“ Charles E.	“ Ida J. Waterman	May 4, 1880
“ Benjamin F.	“ Amelia Markham	Sept. 21, 1852
“ “ “	“ Mrs. Jemima Dickerson	Oct. 27, 1897
Stitz, Henry E.	“ Ida Kock	Feb. 16, 1898
“ Henry W.	“ Lena Gentsch	Feb. 3, 1861
“ Philip	“ Mary Lohr	Aug. 27, 1872
“ William Jr.	“ Catharine Garby	Dec. 12, 1883
“ William	“ Kate A. Garby	Dec. 14, 1893
Stevens, E. C.	“ Edith A. Bacon	March 6, 1901
Sutton, Alex	“ Nettie Miller	Nov. 15, 1888

Sweet, Charles H.	and Emma K. Chilcott	Dec. 31, 1862
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T.

Taeufer, Lanhardt Karl	and Ida Louise Jasel	March 25, 1901
Tank, Herman F.	" Bertha W. Mann	Feb. 16, 1887
Thayer, Charles	" Caroline Chadderdon	Sept. 28, 1869
Thiel, Henry M.	" Emma Arndt	April 12, 1893
Tillou, Albert A.	" Helen Louise Hurd	March 8, 1887
" Alpheus H.	" Hattie Grace	June 5, 1889
" D. Joseph	" Flora E. Baker	Sept. 2, 1885
" Erastus	" Mary Jane Pratt	1856
" Harrison L.	" Julia Bristol	Jan. 3, 1861
" Isaac	" Sarah Meldrum	Sept. 4, 1856
" James	" Lucy Harris	Jan. 1857
" Joseph	" Hannah Filkins	1816
" R. Fred	" Jennie Thayer	Dec. 4, 1887
Tramps, Charles	" Scharlon	Aug. 12, 1853
Tremor, John	" Lizzie Steck	June 27, 1901
Townsend, George	" Sarah A. Hurd	1852

V.

Vaselar, Christian	and Emma P. Herlan	June 30, 1897
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W.

Wagner, William	and Emeline Wanglien	Nov. 27, 1889
Walker, Wallace	" Mrs. Lovina Darcey	May 31, 1874
Wallis, William D.	" Elizabeth J. Davis	Dec. 20, 1857
Walter, John, Sr.	" Barbara Schoel	Aug. 12, 1854
" John, Jr.	" Lucy Schuster	April 17, 1879
Walters, Erick	" Mary Smith	March 28, 1899
Wannemacher, O. J.	" Clara Gardner	April 9, 1859
" William	" Catharine Beck	April 10, 1893
Ward, James H.	" Jane M. Morse	July 20, 1835
Webster, Russel H.	" Helen L. Lathrop	Sept. 1, 1897
" Sheldon	" A. Kate Smith	Feb. 23, 1898
Weil, Jacob C.	" Fanny Beidler	April 11, 1877
Welton, Lewis O.	" Lucy M. Adams	June 23, 1901
White, Eugene	" Mary Beidler	May 8, 1887
Wier, Edmiston	" Hattie A. Lines	March 30, 1890
" Thomas E.	" Elizabeth Reid	1860
" " "	" Sarah Reid	1873
" William	" Wilhelmina Ludeman	April 24, 1884
Wilbor, Rev. Albert D.	" Mary Ann Sleeper	Aug. 13, 1846
" Rev. Carlton C.	" Dorcas Mead Hale	June 22, 1864



Wilbor, Cyrenus	and Charlotte Dutton	Dec. 16, 1819
“ Salmon H.	“ Rhoda Kidder	May 7, 1844
“ Henry D.	“ Sarah J. Johnson	Oct. 12, 1857
Wiley, Robert	“ Harriet Kyser	Sept. 19, 1868
Wilhelm, Alexander J.	“ Anna Strasser	Jan. 24, 1898
Willett, Samuel R.	“ Kate F. Smedes	Nov. 14, 1883
Williams, Silas W.	“ Addie Griffin	Dec. 22, 1874
“ Thomas D.	“ Adeline E. Price	Sept. 29, 1855
“ William H.	“ Ida Williams	Jan. 29, 1879
Winkler, William M.	“ Kate E. Phalen	May 26, 1886
Winspear, Horatio	“ Emma A. Cobb	Dec. 12, 1877
“ William	“ Hannah Richardson	Jan. 27, 1837
Wilson, Amos L.	“ Angie Sweet	Jan. 29, 1871
“ Dennis L.	“ Mary Northrup	Sept. 10, 1863
Woodard, Eron	“ Martha Bostwick	April 22, 1850
“ George H.	“ Emma Dick	Jan. 5, 1876
“ James A.	“ Ada Northrup	March 15, 1883
Wurtenberg, Francis A.	“ Gertrude Standart	June 14, 1899

#### Y.

Young, George W.	and Sylvia Welch	Nov. 25, 1884
“ Jacob	“ Maria Standart	March 18, 1847
“ Philip	“ Dorothea Gakler	March 12, 1850

## CHAPTER XIX

### DEATHS.

Alphabetical list of 400 of the residents of the Town of Elma, with the age and date of death.

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Adams, John . . . . .	86	8	25	Sept	25, 1887
“ Deville W. . . . .	64	..	..	April	17, 1891
“ John 2d . . . . .	..	..	..	Jan.	20, 1901
“ Mary K. . . . .	86	9	11	March	30, 1893
Aldrich, Marvel . . . . .	70	..	..	Dec.	19, 1887
Allen, Anthony . . . . .	68	2	28	April	14, 1899
“ Ellery S. . . . .	56	9	22	Jan.	12, 1883
“ Sally . . . . .	85	9	5	April	27, 1891
Ard, James . . . . .	75	..	..	Feb.	7, 1863
“ Elizabeth, wife of James . . . . .	76	11	20	Aug.	1, 1858
“ George . . . . .	67	3	16	Aug.	16, 1889
“ Eliza, widow of George . . . . .	78	..	..	Nov.	18, 1893
Armstrong, Gordon . . . . .	78	4	5	April	5, 1865
“ Addison . . . . .	79	2	..	Nov.	7, 1892
Arnold, Oliver H. . . . .	81	6	2	July	5, 1883
Atlof, John, murdered by Manke . . . . .	..	..	..	April	2, 1878
Avolt, Michael, drowned at Northrup milldam . . . . .	..	..	..		1858
Aykroyd, Rachel . . . . .	70	..	..	May	24, 1893

### B.

Badger, Frederick . . . . .	77	..	..	July	24, 1892
Baker, Andrew . . . . .	56	..	20	Aug.	5, 1892
“ Rev. Chauncey S. . . . .	78	8	..	Jan.	7, 1892
“ Julia F., widow of Chauncey S. and Elon Clark . . . . .	70	..	14	April	4, 1898
“ Luke . . . . .	82	2	28	March	30, 1895
“ Moses . . . . .	71	..	..	Aug.	11, 1867
“ Dolly, wife of Moses . . . . .	61	..	..	Aug.	13, 1864
“ Salem . . . . .	77	10	5	Dec.	18, 1883
“ Dolly, widow of Salem . . . . .	80	..	..	Sept.	2, 1888
Bancroft, Eleazer . . . . .	86	1	26	Feb.	7, 1888

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Baneroft, E. S. A., wife of Eleazer . . .	83	..	..	June	6, 1885
“ William H. . . . .	68	1	7	July	30, 1884
“ Eliza, widow of Wm. H. . .	76	7	25	Sept.	5, 1896
Barnett, John, Sr. . . . .	78	..	..	Feb.	1, 1894
“ Mary, widow of John . . . . .	83	..	..	Aug.	30, 1899
“ Mary C. . . . .	39	..	..	Jan.	13, 1890
Bass, Hiram Milton . . . . .	77	8	11	Dec.	20, 1893
Bauer, George C. . . . .	70	..	..	Sept.	5, 1894
“ Magdalena . . . . .	69	1	12	May	16, 1896
Beck, Michael . . . . .	..	..	..	Sept.	14, 1896
Becker, Louis . . . . .	53	..	..	Jan.	2, 1892
“ Matthias . . . . .	67	4	20	Nov.	19, 1892
Beidler, Henry . . . . .	62	2	22	Nov.	4, 1888
Below, John . . . . .	77	..	..	Jan.	2, 1894
“ Mary . . . . .	68	..	..	Dec.	11, 1890
Billington, John S. . . . .	68	..	..	Feb.	23, 1876
“ Sally, widow of John S. . .	83	..	..	March	20, 1891
Blake, Candace Bancroft . . . . .	26	6	..	Aug.	5, 1859
Blood, Levi . . . . .	80	3	21	Jan.	9, 1890
“ Laura, wife of Levi . . . . .	52	8	16	Sept.	21, 1859
Boedecker, Herman August . . . . .	63	5	3	Feb.	21, 1895
Bodamer, Philip, killed by falling tree . .	..	..	..	April	13, 1881
“ Christina, widow of Philip . .	75	..	..	Jan.	17, 1901
“ Jacob . . . . .	70	3	3	Dec.	15, 1893
“ Tamison, widow of Jacob. .	73	7	16	Feb.	24, 1899
Bommer, Mrs. . . . .	47	..	..	Jan.	14, 1890
Bove, John . . . . .	67	1	22	Nov.	8, 1898
Brandt, Bernhardt. . . . .	65	..	5	Oct.	4, 1894
Briggs, Cortland C. . . . .	25	6	4	June	7, 1895
“ Angie, R., wife of Wilbor B. .	46	8	15	June	2, 1890
“ Joseph B. . . . .	86	..	..	Oct.	30, 1898
Bristol, John B. . . . .	81	6	..	March	4, 1869
“ Gazelle Cross, widow of John B. . . . .	75	..	..	June	6, 1876
Brunner, August, murdered and thrown into Blossom millpond . . .	..	..	..		1862
Buffum, Eliza Ard, wife of David. . .	66	..	..	Dec.	24, 1890
“ Sarah House, wife of David. .	73	..	..	July	16, 1896
Bullis, Ella C., wife of Frank . . . . .	45	..	..	July	6, 1898
“ Lewis M. . . . .	65	..	..		1868
“ Seth M. . . . .	75	8	9	Oct.	1, 1883
“ Mary Scott, widow of Seth M. .	87	..	..	Nov.	6, 1898
“ Elizabeth, daughter of Seth M. .	57	6	20	Oct.	6, 1899

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.	
Bull, William, (suicide) . . . . .	30	..	..	1869
Burns, killed by falling limb of tree at Spring Brook . . . . .				1839

### C.

Carman, John . . . . .	77	6	..	March 15, 1900
Cass, Dr. William . . . . .	77	..	..	May 3, 1851
Cassady, Marcella Henry . . . . .	68	8	29	March 17, 1896
Chandler, Lyman . . . . .	89	..	..	Oct. 31, 1887
“ Amy, wife of Lyman . . . . .	70	..	4	Sept. 25, 1858
Chadderdon, William J. . . . .	53	10	..	June 27, 1867
Chilcott, Lyman S. . . . .	71	..	..	Jan. 15, 1899
Clark, Elon, Sr. . . . .	34	1	20	June 7, 1856
“ Elon, Jr. . . . .	18	3	22	Dec. 18, 1874
“ James . . . . .	73	3	25	July 15, 1890
“ Almeron, son of James. . . . .	49	..	..	Sept. 14, 1892
“ Joseph F. . . . .	31	..	..	Aug. 22, 1854
“ Oliver H. . . . .	32	..	..	Feb. 12, 1853
Clements, Samuel. . . . .	59	..	..	June 18, 1888
Cobb, Zenas M. . . . .	71	7	23	May 15, 1886
“ Lucena, widow of Zenas M . . .	67	11	..	Jan. 5, 1888
Cole, Salathiel . . . . .	77	7	2	July 25, 1863
“ Elizabeth, wife of Salathiel . . .	67	2	23	July 11, 1857
“ Mary . . . . .	90	4	..	July 8, 1885
“ Catharine . . . . .	74	..	..	July 15, 1892
“ John W. . . . .	56	..	..	Dec. 13, 1880
“ Mary . . . . .	78	..	..	Aug. 19, 1894
“ Lucy J. . . . .	72	6	10	Nov. 21, 1896
Cotton, Elisha . . . . .	80	8	3	Dec. 3, 1863
“ Sophia, widow of Elisha . . . .	78	..	2	March 31, 1865
Conley, James . . . . .	60	..	..	Nov. 30, 1874
“ John . . . . .	29	..	..	June 28, 1892
“ Margaret Connors . . . . .	25	5	..	Sept. 15, 1894
“ Emily, Wannemacher wife of William . . . . .	26	1	4	Oct. 7, 1887
Cunningham, Mrs. Sarah Townsend .	69	11	16	Aug. 28, 1901

### D.

Davis, Samuel . . . . .	82	3	1	Nov. 14, 1856
“ Catharine, widow of Samuel . .	81	5	11	Jan. 1, 1859
“ James . . . . .	64	3	3	Jan. 29, 1865
“ Ursula, wife of James . . . . .	51	..	2	May 17, 1860
“ Jacob R. . . . .	74	..	..	Jan. 10, 1873



NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Davis, Harriet Henshaw, wife of Jacob R. ....	48	..	..	Feb.	11, 1855
" James .....	85	..	..	Jan.	5, 1892
" Caroline Chadderdon, wife of James .....	80	..	..	July	19, 1891
" Samuel .....	32	2	22	Dec.	4, 1863
" Sarah Clarkson Wood, wife of William H. ....	28	..	..	April	24, 1864
" Hattie S., daughter of William H. and Sarah, drowned in Devils Hole .....	11	..	..	July	24, 1867
Devine, John .....	86	..	..	Nov.	18, 1876
Diehl, Peter, killed by bursting of millstone in Blossom .....				March,	1876
Diemert, Joseph .....	73	9	10	Feb.	15, 1901
Dingman, Harry .....	81	3	2	Dec.	17, 1897
Dodge, Thomas .....	73	6	9	March	31, 1895

#### E.

Eckert, Caroline .....	58	..	..	March	28, 1893
Ehrlick, Ernst .....	64	11	4	June	28, 1889
Eldridge, John .....	75	..	..	Feb.	7, 1896
Ellis, Nellie R. ....	20	2	28	July	28, 1888

#### F.

Fairbanks, James .....	71	9	25	Jan.	18, 1851
" Willard .....	85	7	6	April	13, 1889
" Mary Blood, wife of Willard .....	32	..	..	Feb.	13, 1840
" Mahala Blood, wife of Willard .....	..	..	..	May	1883
Fath, Christian, (suicide) .....	..	..	..	July	1865
Fisher, Frederick .....	70	5	22	March	23, 1900
Flannigan, Catharine, wife of Thos. ....	57	..	..	Aug.	30, 1886
Flynn, Catharine .....	57	7	7	Oct.	31, 1897
Fowler, Edwin .....	80	6	..	Sept.	21, 1885
Frazier, (suicide) .....	..	..	..		1866
Frobes, Charles .....	77	3	..	June	23, 1892

#### G.

Gasman, Jacob, killed by lightning ..	30	6	..	Aug.	19, 1889
Gentsch, George .....	79	..	..	Nov.	22, 1886
Gibson, Walter J. (suicide) .....	48	7	8	Feb.	7, 1889

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.	
Gibson, Clara E. ....	57	5	2	Sept. 24, 1901
Gilbert, John G. ....	72	9	1	Sept. 1, 1900
" Rosa Herley .....	65	1	14	March 26, 1895
Gilmore, Dr. James .....	..	..	..	1890
" Emeline, widow of James..	..	..	..	Oct. 23, 1897
" Martha Louise .....	41	4	1	June 14, 1886
Glass, Mary Ann .....	60	..	..	Dec. 20, 1891
Gloss, Julia L. Armstrong, wife of William .....	50	7	17	Aug. 23, 1901
Gorenflo, John P. ....	82	5	15	May 19, 1895
Godfrey, William .....	69	..	..	March 23, 1896
Grace, Jane Kinsey, wife of Joseph...	34	..	..	July 8, 1847
Grader, Peter, Sr. ....	67	4	5	Aug. 2, 1889
Gramm, Frederick H. ....	49	6	4	Feb. 17, 1888
Green, Prudence B., wife of Samuel..	46	..	..	Sept. 25, 1870
" Samuel .....	64	..	..	1882
Greiss, George .....	67	..	..	July 17, 1891

## H.

Hacker, Charles .....	49	..	..	Oct. 1, 1886
Hagmeyer, Jacob, Jr. ....	37	..	..	Nov. 16, 1894
Hall, Julia Van Epps, wife of Otis A..	77	8	7	Dec. 14, 1893
" Lewis L. ....	85	..	24	March 24, 1900
Hanavan, John .....	44	..	..	April 8, 1896
Hansenberg, Mahala, wife of Matthew	56	..	17	June 8, 1897
Harris, Charles Edgar (Minor) .....	84	..	..	June 20, 1893
" Hiram .....	77	9	..	July 26, 1889
Hastings, Percy B. ....	39	11	25	March 25, 1891
Hatch, Leonard .....	44	..	..	June 20, 1842
" James .....	59	..	14	March 29, 1895
" Elvira Chesbro wife of James	51	5	24	June 10, 1888
Hathorn, Annis, widow of Varenus ..	73	3	10	Aug. 24, 1893
Hauenfelder, George .....	73	..	..	Feb. 26, 1898
Head, Catharine, wife of James .....	72	..	..	Nov. 20, 1897
" Kate .....	26	..	..	March 15, 1888
Heim, George Frederick .....	11	1	6	March 11, 1886
" Jacob F. ....	14	4	18	Jan. 30, 1886
Heitman, Anna C., wife of Charles..	27	4	29	March 8, 1889
" Joanna, wife of Fred, Jr. ....	30	..	..	Feb. 3, 1892
" Maria, wife of Fred, Sr. ....	73	11	12	Aug. 31, 1891
" Sophia, wife of John Sr. ....	61	..	..	Jan. 27, 1886
" Fred, Sr. ....	79	..	..	Nov. 16, 1901
Hemstreet, Zina A. ....	..	..	..	Aug. 5, 1885

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Hemstreet, Polly, wife of Zina A. . . .	70	..	..		1880
Herrick, Sophia . . . . .	76	7	3	May 29,	1892
Hesse, Ernst . . . . .	66	..	..	Nov. 26,	1894
“ Herman G. . . . .	69	4	24	April 25,	1899
Hines, Thomas . . . . .	50	3	14	Feb. 2,	1874
Hitchcock, Hiram . . . . .	84	4	17	Jan. 10,	1866
“ Rachel, wife of Hiram . . .	39	9	6	March 22,	1850
Hoffman, John Christopher . . . . .	66	4	19	Dec. 13,	1889
Hogul, Theresa . . . . .	62	2	15	Oct. 28,	1888
Hobmon, William, son of Henry, killed by farm roller. . . . .	11	11	6	April 10,	1889
Holden, Alice Jackman, wife of Ab- ner . . . . .	51	2	5	Aug. 19,	1899
Hopper, James . . . . .	74	11	18	May 19,	1889
Hornung, Aurelia C. . . . .	22	6	18	Aug. 29,	1887
“ wife of . . . . .	56	2	..	April 23,	1895
Howard, Marcus A. . . . .	62	7	2	July 10,	1871
Hunt, Joseph B. B. . . . .	15	7	25	June 30,	1893
“ William . . . . .	81	..	..	Aug. 8,	1889
“ Sophia, wife of William . . . .	75	9	..	Sept. 27,	1888
Hurd, Cordelia Hill, wife of Cyrus . .	24	7	19	June 28,	1853
“ Alma S. Ashman, wife of Cyrus	63	11	11	July 3,	1892
“ Clark W. . . . .	87	3	20	Jan. 6,	1894
“ Dulcena E., widow of Clark W.	87	9	8	Aug. 29,	1901
“ Allen J., 44th N. Y. Volun- teers . . . . .	21	..	..	July 13,	1863
“ Harvey J. . . . .	52	10	28	Jan. 25,	1901
“ Fanny Amelia, wife of James. .	56	9	16	April 3,	1899
“ Mary, wife of Dennis . . . . .	..	..	..	Dec. 17,	1897

## J.

Jackman, James R. . . . .	71	1	17	Nov. 24,	1864
“ Gracia E., widow of James					
“ R. . . . .	84	..	..	April 14,	1887
“ Malenda Blodgett, wife of					
“ Warren . . . . .	60	5	3	Dec. 4,	1881
Jerge, Casper . . . . .	..	..	..	March 6,	1869
“ Georgiana Hesse, wife of Jacob	59	1	10	Dec. 14,	1887

## K.

Kannangiser, August H. C. . . . .	81	7	15	Oct. 26,	1896
Kelgus, George . . . . .	60	..	..	July 25,	1890
Kihm, Peter . . . . .	70	10	..	Feb. 5,	1891

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Kinsley, Stephen. ....	68	..	..	May	9, 1896
Kleberg, Dorothy, widow of John L..	66	5	1	Feb.	2, 1889
Klehm, Frank. ....	21	..	..	Aug.	5, 1892
“ William, drowned in Blossom millpond. ....	..	..	..		1888
Kleinfelder, Henry, Sr. ....	75	3	15	Aug.	9, 1900
“ Salamonia. ....	72	7	..	Aug.	20, 1896
“ L. W. Henry. ....	38	10	17	Sept.	28, 1892
Knowlton, Elmira. ....	89	..	..	Aug.	8, 1893
Kock, Christopher. ....	69	..	..	Oct.	2, 1891
“ Mary. ....	87	1	27	May	5, 1888
“ Sophia. ....	75	..	12	April	28, 1898
Kraus, Mary R. ....	68	8	..	May	23, 1889
Krohn, John. ....	71	..	..	March	11, 1892
Kromroy, Rica. ....	37	..	..	March	13, 1896
Kyser, Horace. ....	56	..	..	April	10, 1880
“ Jane E. Northrup, widow of Horace. ....	64	9	20	Aug.	28, 1889

# L.

Lagore, (suicide). ....	..	..	..		1855
Lathrop, Paul B. ....	82	6	27	June	23, 1894
“ Laura Chase, wife of Paul B	58	8	21	April	2, 1872
Lee, Zebina. ....	67	..	..	April	4, 1861
“ Robert W., 49th Regiment, died in Maryland. ....	40	..	..	Feb.	10, 1863
Leger, Anna Maria, wife of George..	62	8	20	Jan.	7, 1891
“ George, Jr. ....	53	..	..	June	5, 1900
“ Michael. ....	26	9	7	April	16, 1891
Liebold, Fred M. ....	20	7	15	April	23, 1892
“ August. ....	58	5	26	Feb.	24, 1891
Lines, Joel F. ....	76	8	10	Aug.	25, 1895
Lougee, Benjamin P. ....	..	..	..	Aug.	12, 1874
“ Olive Monroe, widow of Ben- jamin P. ....	93	10	21	April	15, 1897
“ Norton B., 49th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers. ....	28	7	22	Nov.	2, 1862
Luders, John, Sr. ....	40	..	..	April	4, 1856
“ Mary, daughter of John, Sr. (burned). ....	3	..	..	Summer	1859
“ May, daughter of John and Sophia. ....	1	3	5	Sept.	13, 1864



NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
M.					
Manke, Charles, murderer of John Atloff, (hanged) . . . . .	..	..	..	May	14, 1880
Mann, Charles, (suicide) . . . . .	..	..	..		1873
Markham, Stephen . . . . .	70	..	..	April	1, 1879
“ Lovina Clark, widow of Stephen . . . . .	78	11	24	Oct.	7, 1890
Marquart, Harriet Louise, daughter of George . . . . .	21	5	17	June	26, 1900
Marvel, Alfred . . . . .	64	11	24	Sept.	27, 1885
“ Lany Davis, widow of Alfred . . . . .	65	3	25	Oct.	29, 1885
Mau, John . . . . .	70	11	8	Nov.	15, 1900
“ Anna, daughter of John . . . . .	18	9	17	Dec.	12, 1892
Mayer, Jacob . . . . .	69	4	..	Jan.	28, 1888
McCormick, Patrick . . . . .	86	..	..	March	10, 1897
McDonald, Albert . . . . .	51	3	11	June	13, 1901
McFee, Hugh . . . . .	45	3	..	March	15, 1890
McGivern, John . . . . .	49	..	..	June	16, 1871
McGuire, Patrick . . . . .	84	8	10	Dec.	4, 1888
McKinley, William, President of the United States . . . . .	58	7	15	Sept.	14, 1901
McPherson, Donald . . . . .	72	2	7	June	16, 1897
“ Harriet Chase, widow of Donald . . . . .	68	1	20	Aug.	23, 1897
McHugh, Cornelius, (murdered) . . . .	31	..	..	Jan.	5, 1863
McHugh, Catharine, widow of Cornelius . . . . .	26	..	..	Oct.	12, 1864
Metcalf, Charles H. . . . .	29	3	..	Feb.	13, 1891
“ Fisher . . . . .	82	5	25	Aug.	10, 1893
Meyer, Jacob . . . . .	39	4	4	Jan.	22, 1896
Miller, John F. . . . .	64	10	9	May	12, 1898
“ Ernestine, wife of John F. . . .	41	5	24	Feb.	24, 1875
“ Sarah, wife of Jacob, (suicide)	24	4	18	Jan.	24, 1865
“ Barbara Benz . . . . .	73	1	..	Feb.	1, 1892
“ Charles, killed by falling timber . . . . .	32	11	27	April	3, 1883
“ Charles . . . . .	35	7	..	March	26, 1892
“ John . . . . .	72	..	..	March	30, 1892
Mitchell, William . . . . .	..	..	..	Jan.	26, 1836
“ Polly . . . . .	23	..	..	March	20, 1883
Mitzel, Frederick . . . . .	87	5	..	June	23, 1899
Mohn, Catharine M. Richert . . . . .	63	10	6	Dec.	15, 1891
Monroe, Hiram D. . . . .	48	..	..	May	3, 1887

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Moore, Bradley . . . . .	90	3	15	Dec.	1, 1895
Morris, John . . . . .	73	..	..		1859
“ widow of John . . . . .	87	..	..		1872
“ William, (suicide) . . . . .	46	..	..	Nov.	1, 1865
“ Albert, son of William killed in road . . . . .	3	..	..		1866
“ David J. . . . .	62	..	..	June	17, 1874
“ Lydia, widow of David J. . . . .	70	..	..	April	22, 1883
“ Lafayette . . . . .	67	..	..	March	19, 1891
Mund, C. J. . . . .	86	11	..	July	22, 1890
“ Sophia . . . . .	85	3	19	Jan.	23, 1893
Munger, Diana, wife of Fowler . . . . .	..	..	..	July	6, 1858
“ Wallace, shot by accident . . . . .	13	..	..	Sept.	5, 1884

#### N.

Nichols, Maria Howard . . . . .	84	11	..	Dec.	8, 1901
Northrup, Lewis . . . . .	81	..	..	Dec.	29, 1882
“ Jane Warner, wife of Lewis . . . . .	81	10	..	Feb.	8, 1880
“ Emma Winspear, wife of Eli B. . . . .	41	10	27	Sept.	21, 1883
“ William Lewis . . . . .	19	..	8	March	23, 1890
Norton, Abraham . . . . .	70	..	..	Nov.	15, 1859
Noyes, Theodore . . . . .	61	9	..	July	25, 1858
“ Almira Lougee, wife of Sime- on . . . . .	27	5	2	Dec.	4, 1864
Nobisch, Anna Katharine, daughter of Matthew . . . . .	23	2	12	Oct.	3, 1900

#### O.

Oberly, Peter . . . . .	74	11	14	March	14, 1900
Odell, Riley W. . . . .	74	..	..	Jan.	5, 1893
Orb, Sophia . . . . .	84	..	..	Nov.	8, 1887
Orton, Darius W. . . . .	72	7	5	Feb.	18, 1897
Ostrander, Phebe . . . . .	77	5	..	March	31, 1885

#### P.

Packard, Philena S. . . . .	78	..	..	Feb.	6, 1894
Paine, William B. . . . .	81	3	..	Sept.	12, 1891
“ Harriet H. . . . .	77	6	20	July	19, 1892
Pattengell, Hiram, (suicide) . . . . .	47	..	..	March	19, 1846
“ Ellen A., wife of James . . . . .	..	..	..	Jan.	19, 1883
Peek, George . . . . .	83	..	..	June	20, 1869
Ann wife of George . . . . .	78	..	..	March	8, 1869

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Peek, Christopher . . . . .	75	..	..	Feb.	20, 1900
“ John W. . . . .	81	3	..	July	5, 1900
Peters, John . . . . .	75	..	..	Oct.	10, 1888
“ William H. . . . .	..	..	..	Dec.	7, 1892
Phillips, Geneva . . . . .	80	3	..	Feb.	24, 1889
“ Simeon, (suicide) . . . . .	50	..	..	Aug.	4, 1901
Pierce, Louise Maurer . . . . .	31	8	..	March	3, 1896
Price, Daniel . . . . .	66	..	..	Feb.	14, 1874

## R.

Radloff, Mary . . . . .	51	9	22	Oct.	20, 1895
Reitz, Barbara . . . . .	67	..	2	April	23, 1901
Roll, Henry . . . . .	95	..	..	Oct.	19, 1892
Roloff, Henry Charles . . . . .	40	..	..	May	25, 1889
“ William . . . . .	25	8	28	Aug.	16, 1899
Rossman, William, (suicide) . . . . .	..	..	..		1885
Rowley, Amos P. . . . .	..	..	..	Dec.	21, 1863
“ Carrissa, wife of Amos P. . . . .	..	..	..	Nov.	1842
Rupp, Jacob . . . . .	28	..	..	Oct.	17, 1892
Rush, Sarah, wife of John . . . . .	66	..	..	Dec.	4, 1892

## S.

Sandall, Louis . . . . .	46	9	3	Aug.	29, 1898
Schilling, John Jacob . . . . .	63	2	25	July	22, 1888
Schmaltz, John J. . . . .	69	..	7	Jan.	26, 1888
Schneider, Ann Gemmer, wife of Thos. . . . .	33	..	20	Dec.	24, 1899
Schwartz, Mary Ann . . . . .	79	6	14	Jan.	29, 1892
Scott, Melissa Cole, wife of John . . . . .	58	3	16	May	30, 1877
Seeger, Charlotte, widow of Cyrenus Wilbor; wife of Rev. Schuy- ler . . . . .	61	..	..	Oct.	28, 1863
“ Christopher, (suicide by hang- ing) . . . . .	69	5	..	May	26, 1888
Shane, Peter, killed at barn raising . . . . .	..	..	..		1851
“ Mary, daughter of Peter . . . . .	47	..	..	Jan	6, 1884
Sileman, August . . . . .	66	5	8	March	12, 1894
Simmons, Eli . . . . .	80	..	..	Sept.	11, 1891
Sisler, Lewis . . . . .	63	6	6	Feb	17, 1895
Sleeper, Henry C. . . . .	51	1	..	Feb.	23, 1891
Smedes, Belinda, wife of Abram W. . . . .	41	7	..	Sept.	3, 1866
Smith, Charles . . . . .	70	..	..	Sept.	24, 1892
“ Magdalena . . . . .	83	1	16	March	16, 1889

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Spencer, Elizabeth Warner, wife of					
Cyrus S. ....	69	7	4	March 18,	1890
Staley, John ....	67	..	..	Jan. 4,	1899
Standart, George, Sr. ....	72	..	..	April 15,	1862
"    Bethier, wife of George Sr.	61	9	..	July 11,	1859
"    Samantha, daughter of					
George Sr. ....	..	..	..	July 15,	1849
"    Washington ....	37	2	23	March 24,	1861
"    John, (suicide, cut his					
throat) ....	..	..	..	July 7,	1874
"    Mary, wife of John, mur-					
dered by John. ....	..	..	..	July 7,	1874
"    Deforest ....	41	..	..	Oct. 10,	1864
"    William ....	85	5	24	Oct. 14,	1882
"    Olive Draper, wife of Wil-					
liam ....	77	9	15	Aug. 28,	1879
"    Joseph C. ....	55	10	16	April 26,	1893
Sterling, Louis H. ....	83	..	..	Jan. 10,	1901
Stetson, Amelia, wife of Benjamin F.	56	1	4	Nov. 9,	1890
"    Benjamin F. ....	73	10	11	Sept. 23,	1901
Stilb, Jacob ....	40	..	..	Dec. 3,	1890
Stitz, Henry W. ....	65	..	..	July 31,	1899
"    Mary, wife of Philip ....	48	1	7	Nov. 2,	1897
Sutton, Mary, widow of ....	70	..	..	Sept. 5,	1894
Sweet, Charles A. ....	57	..	..	Dec. 7,	1901
Switzer, Matthew ....	62	7	22	Nov. 18,	1891

# T.

Taber, Martin ....	46	7	2	June 23,	1846
Tabor, Seth P. ....	74	6	27	Oct. 27,	1898
Tank, John ....	68	7	21	Oct. 25,	1898
"    Rachel ....	68	11	11	Sept. 11,	1896
Tiffany, Thomas D., (suicide by					
hanging) ....	..	..	..	Sept. 1860	
Tillou, Joseph ....	79	..	..	Sept. 13,	1875
"    Hannah Filkins, widow of Jo-					
seph ....	82	..	..	Aug. 27,	1878
"    Erastus E. ....	54	..	..	June 15,	1888
"    Isaac ....	72	5	17	Nov. 25,	1891
"    Albert ....	..	..	..	March 27,	1901
"    Lucy Harris, wife of James...	59	1	22	May 22,	1890
"    daughter of Joseph....	..	..	..		
Townsend, George, (color bearer of					
116th Regiment) ....	37	..	..	Oct. 1864	



NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.	
Trams, Frederika . . . . .	80	..	..	Dec. 19, 1883
“ Sophia, wife of Charles . . . . .	78	7	10	March 22, 1900

#### U.

Underhill, Henry W. . . . .	72	10	26	Sept. 6, 1893
Unsel, John . . . . .	72	..	..	Nov, 20, 1897
“ Elizabeth . . . . .	60	..	..	Dec. 15, 1883

#### V.

Victoria, Queen of England . . . . .	81	8	3	Jan. 22, 1901
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#### W.

Wagner, Wilhelmina E. C. . . . .	49	..	..	Nov. 1, 1886
Wallis, Nellie E., daughter of William D., drowned in Devils Hole . . . . .	9	..	..	July 24, 1867
Walter, Bernhard, killed by railroad . . . . .	54	..	..	Aug. 1, 1900
“ John . . . . .	94	..	20	April 9, 1884
Wannemacher, Ottman J. . . . .	73	5	8	April 24, 1901
Ward, James H. . . . .	86	8	..	July 3, 1898
Weed, Elias . . . . .	57	6	..	June 24, 1871
Weiser, Peter . . . . .	62	6	15	June 27, 1883
Wellman, Henry . . . . .	86	5	11	Jan. 22, 1900
Wendt, Frederika . . . . .	96	..	..	June 27, 1887
White, Samuel P. . . . .	73	6	9	Sept. 2, 1898
Whittemore, Moses F. . . . .	79	..	..	Aug. 31, 1897
Whitney, Charles M. . . . .	77	..	..	April 14, 1896
“ Caroline Ranney, wife of Charles M. . . . .	65	..	..	Aug. 28, 1889
Widemyer, Hermon . . . . .	43	..	..	Sept. 9, 1883
Wier, Thomas E. . . . .	62	..	..	Aug. 21, 1893
“ Elizabeth Reid, wife of Thomas E. . . . .	41	..	..	1872
“ Sarah, wife of Thomas E. . . . .	38	6	..	Aug. 21, 1893
Wilbor, Cyrenus . . . . .	62	7	6	Sept. 21, 1856
“ Henry D. . . . .	..	..	..	Feb. 18, 1900
Wiley, James . . . . .	82	..	..	Aug. 18, 1891
Williams, Isaac, Jr. . . . .	40	..	..	Dec. 24, 1838
“ Martha, mother of Isaac, Sr. . . . .	53	..	..	Nov. 29, 1829
“ Sarah, widow of Isaac, Jr. . . . .	59	..	..	Jan. 28, 1859
“ Thomas D. . . . .	73	9	10	Dec. 1, 1900
“ John W. . . . .	82	1	..	Jan. 24, 1892
Wilson, Ezra . . . . .	78	10	8	Feb. 6, 1898
“ Anna A. Kester . . . . .	73	..	..	June 2, 1898

NAME.	AGE.			DATE OF DEATH.	
	YRS.	MOS.	DAYS.		
Winspear, William . . . . .	65	2	14	June	21, 1878
Wright, James . . . . .	76	..	..	Feb.	3, 1888
“ Catharine, widow of James..	76	..	..	July	5, 1891
Woodard, Eron . . . . .	76	7	25	Oct.	13, 1896
Y.					
Young, Jacob . . . . .	77	5	..	June	4, 1899
“ Sylvia, wife of George W....	47	4	8	April	15, 1894
“ Philip . . . . .	29	10	11	Dec.	13, 1853

# CHAPTER XX.

Names of 60 persons who owned lands and resided on the MILE STRIP, in Elma, in 1900, and the number of home lot:

Adams, D. K.....	19	L.	
“ Mary .....	20	Lathrop, Chase .....	28
Arndt, John.....	19	“ Herbert .....	25
B.		Letter, Peter.....	21
Balow, Albert.....	8	Lidke, John.....	36
Bass, Eugene.....	10	M.	
Baker, Charles.....	31	Maloney, Michael.....	12
Benzel, Hermon .....	37	Marquart, George.....	23
“ Peter .....	37	Mitchell, Joshua.....	26
Brown, Caleb F.....	15	McDonald, James C.....	18
“ Jeremiah .....	14	N.	
“ Warren .....	2	Norman, Charles....	21
C.		O.	
Carrol, John .....	31	Oldenberg, Charles..	36
“ Edward .....	31	P.	
Cole, Charles P.....	26	Paine, Colton .....	8
“ Bordan P.....	26	Pattengill, Irwin .....	4
D.		Paxon, Myron.....	5
Davis, Albert H.....	36	Pierce, Levant.....	36
“ Homer .....	13	Pollock, Winslow.....	23
E.		Powers, R. F.....	19
Edner John.....	25	R.	
Ellis, James.....	19	Ralyea, Mrs.....	2
F.		Rickertson, James B.....	8
Fowler, Leroy.....	9	S.	
G.		Scott, John.....	36
Griffin, James L.....	12	Smith, A. J.....	36
H.		Spooner, Edward.....	6
Hackenheimer, John.....	24	Steckman, John.....	2
Hansenberg, Matthew.....	13	T.	
Hatch, John.....	2	Thayer, Henry.....	34
Head, Thomas J.....	34	W.	
Hermann, Catharine.....	27	Walter, Bernard.....	1
Horton, Anna.....	34	Wiley, Robert.....	33
Kock, William.....	33	Williams, Riley .....	16
Keem, George.....	1	“ Thomas D.....	15
Kyser, Jacob.....	37	“ William H.....	17
		Wilson, Amos L.....	30

Names of 193 persons who owned lands and resided on the AURORA PART of Elma, in 1900, and the number of their home lot:

Adams, Allen.....	82	Davis, Charles W.....	102
Allen, Anthony.....	11	Dimert, Joseph.....	36
"    Henry P.....	10	Dingman, E. H....	39
"    Silas H.....	10	Donahue, Patrick.....	76
Ambrose, Robert.....	91		
Arndt, Fred.....	62		
		E.	
		Edwards, Thomas.....	10
B.		Ehrlick, Charles.....	38
Badger, Albert.....	11	Eldridge, Benjamin F....	5
Balow, William.....	44		
"    A. L.....	22	F.	
Barnett, John.....	67	Fensel, Frank.....	55
"    Richard T.....	81	Fisher, Fred.....	54
Bauder, Frank.....	4	Fones, W. W.....	82
Benzel, Henry O.....	38		
Beckman, Charles.....	40	G.	
Becker, Mattie.....	100	Geyer, Joseph.....	52
Bishop, George.....	64	Gilbert, John.....	51
Bleek, Ernst.....	42	Grace, James J.....	75
Bove, Julius.....	28	"    William W.....	70
Boonk Barney.....	42	Grader, Peter.....	52
Boos, Conrad.....	99	Griffin, Ida.....	71
Burman, Charles.....	10	"    Seward.....	75
Buffum, Charles.....	6		
Burns, Peter.....	58	H.	
		Hagmeier, Jacob.....	49
C.		Hacker, Charles.....	54
Chadderdon, J. W.....	82	Hammersmith, Peter.....	73
Chilcott, Gilbert.....	102	Hatch, Frank.....	12
"    Mattie.....	102	"    Niles.....	12
"    Mrs. G. A.....	94	Head, Edward.....	78
Conley, Bernard.....	72	Heim, Fred.....	30
"    John, Jr.....	80	"    Frank.....	31
"    Patrick.....	67	"    George.....	31
"    William.....	68	"    Jacob.....	34
Curtis, Frank.....	4	Heller, Conrad.....	31
"    Albert.....	25	Helmick, Charles.....	95
"    Stephen.....	25	Hemstreet, Isaac.....	4
		Hendershott, Richard....	Mill
D.		Higgins, Margaret.....	4
Davis, James C.....	76	Hines, Solon.....	43
"    William H.....	101	"    Willard F.....	10

Hodgkins, Herbert J. ....	9		
Hopper, Mrs. James. ....	18		
Horn, Frank. ....	94		
Holt, Walter. ....	70		
Howe, Maria. ....	10		
Howley, Edward. ....	81		
Hunt, Catharine. ....	71		
"    Joseph. ....	71		
K.			
Kannengeiser, John. ....	102		
Kihm, Henry. ....	78		
Kingsley, Stephen. ....	85		
Kingston, John. ....	59		
Klas, Joseph. ....	75		
Klehm, Henry. ....	53		
Kromroy, John. ....	37		
Krohn, John. ....	49		
L.			
Landers, Anna. ....	77		
Lave, Lewis. ....	90		
Leger, George. ....	81		
Liebold, John J. ....	82		
Lexo, Henry. ....	24		
Lines, Fred. ....	80		
Luders, John. ....	40		
"    Fred. ....	41		
M.			
Marks, Edward. ....	22		
Markle, Cornelius. ....	67		
Marshall, Julius. ....	75		
Metcalf, Irwin. ....	11		
"    Reuben. ....	10		
"    Spencer. ....	17		
Miller, Anna. ....	29		
"    Fred. ....	29		
"    Jacob. ....	49		
"    William Sr. ....	24		
Morris, Fremont. ....	11		
"    Mrs. L. F. ....	75		
Morrow, William. ....	38		
Mullen, Hugh. ....	2		
Munger, Wilbor. ....	11		
		Mc.	
		McFee, Abigail. ....	75
		McGiveron, John. ....	71
		"    Fred. ....	71
		McHugh, Cornelius. ....	66
		McMullen, John. ....	11
		N.	
		Northrup, Charles. ....	85
		"    Eli B. ....	84
		O.	
		Oldfield, John. ....	9
		O'Connors, John. ....	84
		O'Neil, William H. ....	30
		P.	
		Palmer, Harvey C. ....	10
		Persons, Ellsworth G. ....	26
		Peters, Fred. ....	61
		Phalan, Patrick. ....	81
		Poundlitz, John, Sr. ....	45
		R.	
		Radloff, Fred. ....	84
		Reamer, Charles. ....	82
		Rebain, Anna. ....	80
		Reiderman, George. ....	11
		Reimer, Fred. ....	51
		Reitz, Charles. ....	75
		"    Mary. ....	82
		Roloff, Charles. ....	37
		"    John. ....	46
		Ronian, Daniel. ....	11
		Rush, Francis. ....	44
		"    Sylvester. ....	53
		S.	
		Schefferstein, Andrew Jr. ...	52
		"    Frank. ....	52
		Schroeder, Sophia. ....	80
		"    August. ....	80
		Schweikert, Joseph. ....	85
		Schnurr, George. ....	83
		"    Michael. ....	75



Schurr, Irving G.....	39
Sileman, Frank .....	33
"    John .....	33
"    William .....	37
Simmons, Eugene.....	4
Simons, Daniel A.....	82
Smith, Ezra B.....	29
"    John .....	65
Spencer, Adelbert.....	81
"    Cyrus S.....	84
Stahl, John.....	73
Steck, John M.....	55
"    Michael .....	50
Stillinger, Frank.....	72
Stutzman, Jacob.....	46
Sutton, Alex .....	52
"    Frank .....	52
Sweet, Charles A.....	84
T.	
Talmadge, Charles.....	75
Thayer, Charles.....	71
Tillou, Harrison L.....	82
"    Mrs. Isaac.....	66
"    James .....	66
"    Mary J.....	82
V.	
Valentine, Fred.....	85

# W.

Wagner, Joseph.....	39
Whaley, Mrs. Isaac.....	30
Walker, Wallace .....	63
"    Frank .....	97
Walter, William.....	35
Wanglien, Matilda.....	1
Wannamacher, O. J.....	76
"    William ..	71
Ward, Mrs. James H. . . .	81
Wascher, John.....	19
Weber, Hermon.....	100
Weil, Michael.....	25
Welch, Mrs.....	96
Wescott, Byron H.....	81
Wheeler, Frank.....	93
Widemeyer, Catharine.....	101
Will, Christ.....	58
Williams, Silas.....	22
Wilson, Dennis L.....	60
"    Mary .....	60
"    Fred .....	61
Winegar, Fred.....	67
Winspear, Horatio.....	81
Woodard, Mrs. Erin.....	52
"    James A.....	60

Names of 170 persons who owned lands and resided on the LANCASTER PART of Elma, in 1900, and the number of their home lot:

Aldrich, Jesse.....	7	E.	
Arndt, Joseph.....	12	Eberhardt, John.....	79
B.		Eckert, Charlotte . . . .	Blossom
Bancroft, Alonzo C.....	57	Edenhoffer, John.....	57
“ Henry E.....	64	Eiss, Cornelius.....	34
Bauer, Michael . . . . .	Blossom	F.	
Beckman, William . . . . .	20	Fagman, Joseph . . . . .	Blossom
“ Joseph . . . . .	10	Felton, William.....	91
Becker, Charles.....	78	G.	
Beidler, Dorothea . . . . .	66	Garby, Christ . . . . .	50
“ George . . . . .	66	“ John . . . . .	60
Berner, William.....	77	Gaunflo, Theodore.....	19
Bippert, George W. . . . .	Blossom	Gest, Charles.....	10
Blair, David.....	5	Gibson, Clara E . . . . .	58
Board, Robert C. . . . .	57	Gloss, Pauline . . . . .	60
Bodecker, Jane... . . . .	80	“ William . . . . .	55
Bronson, Levi.....	45	Graff, Anna . . . . .	Blossom
Brandt, Philip.....	21	Gulekunest, O. J.....	90
Briggs, Charles S.....	57	H.	
“ Charles M.....	58	Hafner, Catharine.....	57
“ Mrs. Joseph B.....	57	Hall, Otis A.....	46
“ J. Eddy.....	57	“ “ . . . . .	3
“ Wilbor B. . . . .	57	Heineman, Peter.....	82
Brass, Jacob.....	36	Heinteberger, Mrs. Charles.	90
Bridgeman, Marcus.....	30	Heitman, Fred, Sr.....	45
Busse, Henry... . . . .	38	“ John, Sr.....	11
C.		“ Charles . . . . .	45
Christ, Charles.....	82	Hensel, Conrad P....	Blossom
Clark, Myron H.....	57	Herlan, F. D.....	Blossom
Conley, Mary.....	90	Hesse, Adolf . . . . .	59
Cole, Henry . . . . .	16	“ Hermon . . . . .	43
“ William F.....	15	Hill, Morris . . . . .	3
D.		“ Mrs. Cyrus.....	8
Domon, August . . . . .	10	Hodgkins, Jacob.....	9
“ Charles . . . . .	37	Hoffman, William.....	10
Drews, Henry.....	30	Hohmon, Henry.....	76
Dusch, Alois . . . . .	Blossom	Hornung, Max . . . . .	72
		“ William . . . . .	77
		Hurd, Cyrus . . . . .	61

Hurd, George W.....	85
“ Harvey J.....	57
“ James T.....	58
“ Burton H.....	58

# J.

Jackman, Mrs. Warren....	59
Jager, Fred.....	65
Jasel, Christ.....	56
Jerge, Philip.....	57
“ Hermon.....	57
“ Henry.....	80

# K.

Kalle, Philip.....	Blossom
“ William.....	Blossom
Klein, Joseph.....	31
Kleinfelder, Henry.....	99
Kloots, Thomas.....	31
Kock, Fred.....	93
“ Jacob.....	Blossom
“ John.....	Blossom
“ John.....	45
“ Valentine.....	100
Krouse, George.....	37
Kibbler, Charles.....	61
“ Henry.....	61

# L.

Lee, R. Porter.....	59
Long, Maria.....	57
Lougee, William V.....	2

# M.

Markham, E. J.....	57
Mary, Jacob.....	86
Mattis, Andrew.....	13
Mau, John.....	11
Maurer, Fred.....	21
Menderlain, Anthony.....	31
Miller, John.....	35
Mitzel, George.....	76
Mohn, Jacob.....	Blossom
Morath, Michael.....	57
“ William.....	57
Murlin, Edgar L.....	57

# N.

Newendorf, John.....	6
“ Charles.....	5
Newer, John.....	32
Nosbisch, Matthew.....	60
Noyes, Simeon.....	56

# O.

Oberly, John.....	77
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# P.

Phillips, Anthony.....	6
“ Julia.....	6
“ Joseph.....	6
“ Philip.....	14
“ Simeon.....	6
Praler, John.....	69
Price, Albert.....	71
“ Hannah.....	59

# R.

Rath, John.....	Blossom
Reinhardt, Henry.....	75
Reuther, John.....	11
“ Louis P.....	57
“ Mrs. Louis P.....	57
“ William.....	17
Roll, Charles.....	1

# S.

Schefferstein, Andrew Sr....	60
Scherer, Jacob.....	Blossom
Schilling, Mary.....	86
“ Jacob.....	81
Schlumm, Charles.....	27
Schmaltz, John.....	86
Schrimps, Martin.....	95
Schriveller, John.....	100
Schroeder, Fred Sr.....	74
“ Fred Jr.....	75
“ John.....	65
Schultz, Peter.....	36
“ John.....	41
“ William.....	74
Seeger, Fred.....	65
“ Jacob.....	36

Spaulding, A. D. ....	31
Stauser, Anna. ....	Blossom
Standart, Mrs. Joseph. ....	59
Stetson, Benjamin F. ....	66
Stitz, Henry E. ....	29
“ Mrs. Henry W. ....	30
“ Philip ....	12
“ William ....	7
“ “ F. ....	40
“ “ H. ....	8
Stilp, Michael. ....	Blossom
Stork, Peter. ....	90
Strasley, Catharine. ....	Blossom
Sugg, Nicholas. ....	Blossom
Summerfield, Thomas. ....	95

#### T.

Tank, Hermon. ....	18
Trams, Charles. ....	72

#### U.

Uebelacker, Joseph. ....	29
Unverdarben, Henry . . .	90
“ William Blossom	
Unsel, Mary. ....	42

#### V.

Velzy, F. E. ....	99
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#### W.

Wallenmeyer, William. ....	26
Walter, John. ....	91
Wanglien, Mary. ....	99
Webster, Sheldon. ....	1
Winspear, Hannah. ....	89

#### Y.

Young, Mrs. Jacob. ....	51
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Names of 400 persons registered as voters in the First Election District of the Town of Elma in 1900:

Adams, Allen	Boonck, Bernard	Curtis, Stephen
" D. K.	Bowen, Otis	D.
" Harry	Brandt, Bernard	Davis, Albert
" Herbert	Brauner, Edward	" Charles
" Walter E.	Brown, Caleb F.	" Edward
Allen, Ellery	" Edward	" Homer
" Harry	" Fay	" Howard
" Henry D.	" Jeremiah W.	" James C.
" Leister	" Warren	" William H.
" Silas H.	Brownell, C. A.	Deder, Henry
Ambrose, Robert	" C. F.	Dellany, Charles
Arndt, Fred	Bryan, Constant	" Frank
" John	Burr, Charles	Dietrick, John
Asmas, Herman	Burman, Charles	Dingman, Edward H.
B.	" Fred	Domas, Michael
Badger, Albert	Burns, John	Donner, Charles
Baker, Charles	Butler, F. H.	Donnovan, Patrick
" Charles 2d	" Michael	Doran, Robert
" William G.	" William	Drosendroll, August
" John	C.	" Geo.
" Michael	Carroll, John	E.
Balow, Albert	Chadderdon, Jas. K.	Eastner, John
Barnett, John	" J. W.	Ehrlick, Charles
" Richard T.	Chamberlain, Wm. H.	" Fred
Bass, Arthur	Chilcott, Gilbert	Ellis, James
" Eugene	Clark, William	Enderschot, Christ
Bauder, Frank	Clay, C. C.	F.
Becker, Fred	" Cland	Fairbanks, H. W.
" John	Clifford, Grattan	Farquahr, Frank
" Michael	Cole, Bordan J.	Felton, George
" Theodore	" Charles P.	" Otto
" William	Conklin, John H.	" William
Bensel, George	Conley, Bernard, Sr.	Featherly, David
" Henry O.	" Bernard, Jr.	Fischer, Jerome
" Henry, Sr.	" Cornelius	Fish, Spencer
" Henry, Jr.	" James	Flynn, Michael
" Herman	" John	Fones, Wallace W.
" Peter	" William	Forbes, Aaron
Benzhoffer, Charles	Cooper, Hugh J.	Fowler, Delos
Bleeck, Ernst	Cowan, Ralph	" Leroy
Boeckert, Henry	Curtis, Albert	Probes, Otto
Bommer, Adam	" Frank	



G.  
 Gatty, John  
 " Lawrence  
 Geiss, Fred  
 Geyer, Joseph  
 Gilbert, Henry  
 " John, Sr.  
 " John, Jr.  
 " William  
 Gold, Charles  
 Gould, John  
 Grader, Peter  
 Grace, Howard  
 " James J.  
 " Joseph J.  
 " William W.

H.  
 Haas, Albert  
 " Charles  
 " William  
 Haberer, John  
 Hacker, Fred  
 Hackenheimer, H.  
 " John  
 Hagmeier, Jacob  
 " Henry  
 " Louis  
 Hagen, Charles  
 " James  
 Hammersmith, P.  
 Hammond, Frank  
 Hansenberg, M.  
 Hatch, Frank  
 " John  
 " Niles  
 Head, Edward  
 " Thomas  
 Heller, Charles  
 " Conrad  
 " Henry  
 Heim, Charles  
 " Frank  
 " Fred, Sr.  
 " George

Heim, Jacob  
 " Louis  
 Helmick, Christ  
 " Fred  
 Heximer, Frank  
 Hines, Solon  
 " Willard  
 Hodgkins, Herbert J.  
 Hoefart, Henry  
 Hopper, James L.  
 Hoth, Bert  
 House, Eli  
 Hudson, George  
 Hunt, Joseph  
 K.

Kanangeiser, Jacob  
 " John  
 " Peter  
 Keem, George  
 " William  
 Kelly, Fred  
 Kennedy, Jesse  
 Kester, Frank  
 Kihm, Alfred  
 " Henry  
 Kingston, John, Sr.  
 " John, Jr.  
 " William  
 Klas, Joseph  
 Klehm, Adolph  
 " Henry  
 Klein, Lewis  
 Kock, William  
 Kratt, John  
 Krohn, George  
 Kromroy, John  
 L.  
 Landers, Frank  
 " William  
 Lathrop, Chase  
 " Herbert  
 Lave, Lewis  
 " Herman  
 Leger, George

Leger, John  
 " Louis  
 " William  
 " Walter  
 Leibold, Frank  
 " John  
 Lesch, George  
 Leverance, Charles  
 Lexo, Henry  
 Lines, Clark  
 " Fred  
 " Harry  
 Little, William  
 Lockwood, Charles  
 Lutz, Charles  
 M.

Markle, Cornelius  
 " James D.  
 Marks, Andrew  
 Marquart, Edward  
 " George  
 Marshall, Julius  
 Mason, Rev. George  
 Metcalf, I. W.  
 " Spencer  
 Mitchell, Joshua  
 Miller, Fred  
 " George  
 " Jacob  
 " William  
 Morris, Fremont  
 " William  
 Morrow, William  
 Mullen, Hugh  
 Munger, Fowler  
 Myers, John, Sr.  
 " John, Jr.  
 " Thomas  
 McDonald, Albert  
 " Harry  
 " James C.  
 McGiveron, John  
 " J. L. T.  
 McHugh, Cornelius  
 McMullen, John

N.	Roloff, Charles	Spencer, Cyrus S.
Nehin, Michael	" Christ	Spooner, Clayton
North, Frank	" John	" Edward
Northrup, Eli B.	Ronian, Daniel	Stackman, George
" Charles N.	Rosehardt, George	" John
	" W.	Stahl, John
O.	Rossman, Leonard	" John W.
Odell, Arthur	Rowland, James	Steck, Michael
Offons, A.	S.	Sterling, Alva
" Otto	Scherick, David	Stewart, Charles
Oldenberg, Charles	Scherrit, Walter	Stillinger, Frank
" John	Schofield, Edward	Stinke, William
Oldfield, John	Schroeder, August	Sutton, John
O'Conner, John	Schnurr, Edward	" Nicholas
O,Neal, James	" George	Swain, Francis
" William	" Michael	Sweet, Charles H.
	Schuman, John	Switzer, Herbert
P.	Schurr, Irwin G.	T.
Palmer, Harvey C.	Schweikert, Joseph	Tolsma, Edward
Parker, Burdette	Scott, John	" Edward J.
Pattengell, Harry	Seibert, Charles	Thayer, Henry
" Irwin	Seileman, Edward	" Charles
Persons, Ellsworth G.	" Frank	Thomas, George F.
Peters, Fred	" John	Tillou, Alva H.
" Patrick	" William	" Edward
Pholman, Fred	Simmons, Eugene G.	" Fred
Pierce, Levant	Simons, Daniel A.	" Harrison L.
Pollock, Winson, Sr.	" Daniel J.	" James
" Winson, Jr.	" Edward	V.
Poundlets, John, Sr.	Sisler, Charles	Valentine, Fred
" John, Jr.	Slade, Andrew J.	Van Antwerpt H.
" Louis	" Frank	W.
" William	Slater, Fred	Wagner, Joseph
Powers, R. F.	Sluter, William	" William
R.	Smith, Albert	Wakeley, Everett
Radloff, Fred	" August	" Isaac
Ralyea, Frank	" Charles C.	Wallace, John
Reamer, Charles	" Edward	" Walker
" Fred	" Henry, Sr.	Walter, Bernard
Reideman, Geo., Sr.	" John	" Eric
Reitz, Charles	" Lewis	" Frank
" Fred	" Martin	" Philip
" John	" William B.	" William
Rice, Daniel	Sommers, Augustus	Wannemacher, O. J.
Rickertson, James B.	Spencer, Adelbert	

Washer, John	Wiley, James	Wirth, Edward
Weber, Anthony	" Robert	Wright, Patrick
Wells, A. J.	Will, Christ	Woodard, James A.
Welton, Lewis O.	" John	
Whitney, Edward B.	" Louis	Y.
Widemeyer, Frank	Wilson, Amos L.	Yargo, Henry
Wier, Edminster	" Dennis L.	Yarmikan, Herman
" William	" Fred L.	
Wigley, Amil	Williams, Riley	Z.
" Joseph	" Thomas D.	
Wilcox, Frank	" William H.	Zarcae, Herman

Names of 266 persons registered as voters in the Second Election District of the Town of Elma in 1900:

Aldrich, Jesse	Clark, Russel B.	Gloss, William
Amedon, William	Cole, Francis	Greiss, Michael
Anstett, Bernard F.	"    Henry	H.
Armstrong, Rev. J. E.	"    Philetus	
Arndt, Charles	Cotton, Ira	Hafner, Frank
"    Joseph	"    Sherman	"    Joseph
B.	D.	Hall, Charles
Balow, William	Defenback, Christ	"    Otis A.
Bancroft, Alonzo C.	"    John	Handy, Fred
"    Henry E.	Deimert, George	"    William A.
Bauer, Edward	"    Joseph	Hastings, Albert
"    Michael	Devine, Henry	Hauenfelder, John
Becker, Charles 2d	Domon, August	Heidenracht, R.
"    Charles	"    Charles	"    Geo.
Beckman, August	"    Henry	Heineman, Charles
"    Charles	Drews, Fred	"    Peter
"    Joseph	"    Henry	Heinteburger, F.
"    William	Dusch, Alois	"    Geo.
Beidler, George	E.	Heitman, Charles
Berner, William	Eckert, August	"    Fred, Sr.
Berry, Charles	"    Jacob	"    Fred, Jr.
Bippert, George W.	Edenhoffer, John	Hensel, Conrad P.
Blair, David	Eichinger, Robert	"    Daniel
Bodecher, Frank	Eiss, Cornelius	Hepfinger, Henry
Bove, Frank	"    Daniel	Herbold, George
"    Julius	Eldridge, Benj. J.	"    William
Brass, Jacob	Ernst, Michael	Herlan, Frank
Brecht, Henry	F.	"    F. D.
Bridgman, Marcus	Fitch, William	"    William
Briggs, Charles M.	Flierl, Rev. John	Hesse, Adolph F.
"    Charles S.	Foster, William	"    Herman
"    George D.	G.	Hill, Morris
"    J. Eddy	Garby, Christ	Hilbert, George
"    Wilbor B.	"    Frank	Hitzel, Michael
Bucher, Conrad	"    John	Hodgkins, Jacob
Buffum, Charles J.	Gest, Charles	Hoffman, William
"    David B.	Getty, Lawrence	Hohmon, Henry
C.	Ginther, August	Hornung, Max, Sr.
Christ, Charles	Gloss, Balthazar	"    Max, Jr.
Christen, Fred		"    William Sr.
Clark, Myron H.		"    William Jr.
		Howell, F. R.

Hurd, Burton H.

" Clark

" Cyrus

" Emory

" George W.

" Harvey J.

" James T.

" Melville

J.

Jackman, Warren

Jerge, Herman

" Philip

Jasel, Charles

" Christ

K.

Kalle, Philip

" William

Kester, Christian

" William

Klein, Andrew

" Frank

" Joseph

" Lewis

Kleinfelder, Henry

Kloff, Samuel

Knaab, Jacob

Kock, August

" Fred

" Fred

" Fred

" Jacob

" John

" John

Krouse, George

Kruske, Henry

L.

Landahl, August

" Emil

Lougee, William V.

Ludernon, George

" John

Luders, Fred

" John, Sr.

" John, Jr.

M.

Maiden, Martin

Markham, E. J.

Mary, Jacob

Mattis, Andrew

Mau, Andrew

" J. R.

Maurer, Fred

" Lewis

Meyer, Albert

" James E.

Miller, Henry

" John

" John

Mitzel, George

Mohn, Henry

" Jacob

Morath, George

" Michael

" William

Moss, Joseph

Mund, Christian

" Fred

N.

Nuendorf, John Sr.

" John, Jr.

Newman, George

Nosbisch, Matthew

" Michael

Noyes, Simeon

O.

Oberly, John

P.

Phillips, Anthony

" Edward

" Joseph, Sr.

" Joseph, Jr.

" Philip

" Simeon

Pickens, Fred

Palow, John

Price, Albert

" Harvey

R.

Rath, John

Ray, George

" John W.

Reinhardt, Henry

Reuther, John

" Louis P.

" William

Roup, John

Rush, Sylvester

S.

Sandel, Louis

Scherer, Jacob

Scherwiller, John

Schilling, Jacob

Schlumm, Charles, Sr.

" Charles, Jr.

Schmaltz, John

Schrink, Christ

Schrimps, Martin

Schneider, Thomas

Schroeder, August

" Fred, Sr.

" Fred, Jr.

" John

Schultz, Anthony

" Jacob

" John

" Peter

Schurr, Charles

Schuster, Charles

Seeger, Jacob

Sider, Jerry

" Jesse

Siebert, Charles

Slade, Andrew, Sr.

Sloane, W. J.

Skinner, Almond

Smith, Joseph

Spaulding, A. D.

Stetson, Benjamin F.

" Charles E.

Stilp, Otto

Stimson, S. H.

Stitz, Albert



Stitz, Arthur  
 " Henry E.  
 " Louis  
 " Philip  
 " William, Sr.  
 " William 2d  
 " William  
 " William F.  
 " William H.  
 Stork, John  
 " Peter  
 Sugg, Nicholas  
 Summerfield, Thos.  
 Sutton, Alex.

T.  
 Tank, Herman  
 Theil, Henry  
 Tramps, Charles  
 Trameter, Louis  
 U.  
 Uebelacker, Joseph  
 Unsel, John  
 V.  
 Viergel, Charles  
 W.  
 Wallenneier, Wm.

Walter, John, Sr.  
 " John, Jr.  
 Wanglien, Herman  
 " John  
 Webster, Sheldon  
 Williams, Alexander  
 Y.  
 Young, George W.  
 1st District . . . . 400  
 2d District . . . . 353  


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 Total Registered  
 voters . . . . . 753

## CHAPTER XXI.

## CENSUS OF THE TOWN OF ELMA.

When the State census was taken in 1855 there were but few persons residing in the town of Elma, except those on the Mile Strip; the Indian Reservation being part in the town of Aurora and part in the town of Lancaster. There is no way to ascertain the population at that time, of what was later to be the town of Elma.

The same township conditions were continued at the time the United States Census was taken in 1850, and at the taking of the census by the State in 1855.

The town having been organized December 4, 1856, we have our first knowledge of the population of the town, in the Census as taken by the United States in 1860.

This Census of 1860 gave the total population of Elma as 2,136.

The New York State census of 1865 gave Elma as follows:

White Males.....	1,502	Total Males.....	1,506
“ Females.....	1,399	“ Females.....	1,401

Colored Males.....	4	Total .....	2,907
“ Females .....	2		

Total . . . . .	2,907	Single persons . . . . .	1,727
		Married " . . . . .	1,098

Native born voters . . . . .	276	Widows . . . . .	51
Naturalized " . . . . .	273	Widowers . . . . .	31

Total	“	.....	549	Total . . . . .	2,907
					575 families

333 aliens residing in the town                      415 owners of land  
123 persons over 21 years of age who could not read or write.

United States Census of 1870:

Native born residents..	1,980	White.....	2,823
Foreign “ “ .....	847	Colored.....	4

New York State Census for 1875:

Native born .	2,019	White.....	2,798	Males .....	1,444
Foreign “	790	Colored .....	11	Females.....	1,365

Total ... 2,809      Total ...2,809      Total..... 2,809

Native voters.....	323	Of school age, males ....	501
Naturalized “ .....	301	“ “ “ females....	460
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total voters.....	624	Total .....	961
171 aliens—69 over 21 who cannot read or write.			
483 of military age—437 owners of land.			
United States Census of 1880:			
Total population of the town.....	2,555		
No State Census for 1885, or 1895.			
United States Census for 1890:			
Total population of the town.....	2,163		
United States Census for 1900:			
Total population of the town.....	2,202		

# OFFICERS ELECTED IN THE TOWN OF ELMA, ERIE COUNTY, N. Y., 1857 TO 1901.

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	SUPERVISOR	TOWN CLERK	JUSTICE OF THE PEACE	COM. OF HIGHWAYS	ASSESSORS	COLLECTOR	Vote at Town Meeting
1857	March.	3	P. B. Lathrop	W. Jackman	A. Armstrong T. Aldrich	W. Spooner A. Marvel	Z. M. Cobb H. Blood	A. J. W. Palmer	.....
1858	"	2	"	"	N. W. Stowell J. H. Ward	B. P. Lougee A. Marvel	T. Stowell W. M. Rice	"	.....
1859	"	1	"	"	D. Standart	I. B. Ellsworth	J. W. Ostrander	"	.....
1860	"	6	Z. A. Henstreet	J. H. Ward	D. P. Harris	M. Greiss	H. Erick L. Ott, (to fill vacancy)	W. W. Standart	.....
1861	"	5	"	"	G. Standart, Jr.	N. W. Stowell	C. Adams C. Arnold	A. Twitchell	.....
1862	"	4	C. Peck	L. Morris	W. H. Bancroft	J. W. Waters	L. Heineman	J. Tillou	.....
1863	"	3	"	"	J. H. Ward	C. Rickert	W. Spooner	D. A. Simons	.....
1864	"	1	L. M. Bullis	"	S. M. Calkins	W. M. Lockwood	C. Adams	.....	.....
1865	"	7	"	"	G. Standart, Jr.	G. Standart, Jr.	.....	.....	.....
1866	"	6	P. B. Lathrop	"	W. H. Bancroft J. H. Ward	W. W. Standart	A. Telsow	A. Armstrong	.....
1867	"	5	A. Marvel	H. Tillou	S. Green	E. B. Northrup	Z. M. Cobb	"	.....
1868	"	3	"	T. L. Barry	L. Morris	P. Schuster	W. Spooner	"	.....
1869	"	2	H. Harris	"	S. P. Tabor	D. Allen	B. Conley	A. Telsow	.....
1870	"	1	"	Win. W. Grace	J. H. Ward	P. Schuster	H. W. Stitz	"	.....
1871	"	7	A. Marvel	A. W. Smedes	S. Green	H. Kyser	P. Munger	P. Donahue	.....
1872	"	5	"	"	L. Morris	D. Allen	P. Phalan	"	.....
1873	"	4	"	"	F. Munger	W. W. Standart	C. Rost	W. H. Newcomb	.....
1874	"	3	W. Winspear	"	H. Harris	D. A. Simons	Z. A. Henstreet	H. Klehm	.....
1875	"	2	"	"	S. Green	W. H. Eldridge	A. Gotschchalk	"	.....
1876	"	7	"	G. H. Woodard	H. Tillou	P. Thiel	P. Phalan	"	.....
1877	"	6	E. B. Northrup	J. Garby	J. T. Hurd	J. Meyer	H. Beidler	S. Chicker	.....
1878	"	5	"	"	H. C. Palmer	"	H. Cole	"	.....
1879	March.	4	E. B. Northrup	J. Garby	W. H. Bancroft	J. Luders	P. B. Lathrop	J. Allen	.....
1880	"	2	"	H. A. Wright	F. Gramm H. Tillou	"	C. P. Hensel	H. E. Bancroft	.....
							J. W. Ostrander	H. E. Bancroft	.....
							T. E. Wier	H. Klehm	.....

# OFFICERS ELECTED IN ELMA.—Continued.

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	SUPERVISOR	TOWN CLERK	JUSTICE OF THE PEACE	COM. OF HIGHWAYS	ALDERMEN	COLLECTOR	Vote at Town Meeting
1881	March,	1	A. Marvel	H. A. Wright	E. J. Markham	G. Standart J. Carroll	C. P. Hensel	H. Klehm	
1882	"	7	"	C. Morris	F. Munger	P. Weiser N. Hatch	S. Williams	W. Kleinfelder	
1883	"	6	J. Tillou	W. Mitchell	F. H. Gramm	L. Morris	H. C. Palmer	"	
1884	"	4	"	H. A. Wright	H. Tillou	E. Tillou	T. E. Wier	G. Helfter	
1885	"	3	C. Hund	"	W. Jackson	"	C. P. Hensel	"	
1886	"	2	M. H. Clark	J. Garby	H. C. Palmer	"	E. H. Dingman	M. Beck	
1887	"	1	"	H. Jerge	H. E. Bancroft	W. Kleinfelder	T. E. Wier	"	
1888	"	6	T. Clifford	F. Slade	H. Tillou	"	F. W. Gram	"	
1889	"	5	E. B. Northrup	"	A. Armstrong	J. Heim	P. Heineman	H. Klehm	
1890	"	4	"	"	H. C. Palmer	"	T. E. Wier	H. Lexo	
1891	"	3	C. H. Sweet	H. A. Wright	S. Curtis	"	P. Heineman	J. Miller, Jr.	
1891 Nov.	"	3	"	"	A. Armstrong	"	L. Sisler	"	264
1892 March.	"	8	"	"	H. Tillou	O. Wannemacher	Spencer Metcalf	A. Sutton	310
1893	"	14	R. Barnett	"	W. B. Briggs	"	W. W. Williams	"	468
1894	"	13	"	W. Jackson appointed Sept. 1, to fill vacancy	J. A. Woodard	"	C. P. Hensel	"	
1895	"	12	J. Luders	A. H. Tillou	W. B. Briggs	H. E. Bancroft	W. W. Williams	"	357
1896	"	10	"	"	H. Tillou	"	L. Sisler	"	
1897	"	9	A. A. Woodard,	A. H. Tillou,	W. B. Briggs	"	S. Griffin	A. Klehm	515
1898	"	8	for two years	for two years	A. L. Wilson	G. Heim	G. Marquart	"	373
1899	"	14	J. A. Woodard,	F. Slade,	W. B. Briggs	"	C. J. Hensel	F. Slade	528
1901	"	12	J. A. Woodard,	for two years	H. Tillou	for two years	J. Grace	F. Seileman	559
	"			F. Slade,	A. S. Wilson	A. Mayer,	G. Marquart	C. J. Buffum,	
				for two years	C. F. Brown	for two years	C. P. Hensel	for two years	524
							F. Hatch	for two years	
							J. Garby		



# ASSESSMENTS OF THE TOWN OF ELMA, 1857 to 1900.

YEAR	ASSESSMENT			TOTAL EQUALIZED	TOWN AUDITS	ROADS AND BRIDGES	TOTAL TAX
	PERSONAL	REAL	TOTAL ASSESSED				
1857	9,400	530,840	540,240	483,763	335.94	861.47	4,290.98
1858	7,600	405,625	413,225	458,578	415.14	1,462.53	4,535.43
1859	5,600	430,325	435,925	414,520	304.77	475.68	4,982.63
1860	13,000	406,280	419,280	416,843	593.57	392.67	5,172.59
1861	8,000	405,246	413,246	395,028	551.20	1,000.00	6,211.52
1862	7,400	396,800	404,200	426,355	559.03	1,000.00	2,178.38
1863	5,000	398,796	403,796	424,086	542.68	200.00	6,897.41
1864	5,000	396,610	401,610	425,718	741.23	1,200.00	12,190.59
1865	10,600	399,270	409,870	395,920		400.00	8,047.66
1866	4,000	398,203	402,203	400,820	1,440.24	200.00	6,876.02
1867	7,000	393,975	400,975	401,820	589.10	1,672.96	11,960.25
1868	14,000	420,090	434,090	427,823	852.00	690.00	8,456.10
1869	15,500	405,515	421,015	450,151	694.78	871.47	6,694.19
1870	24,200	407,950	432,150	433,857	859.55	698.19	10,963.10
1871	23,900	401,725	425,625	462,742	641.10	5,417.15	11,960.25
1872	30,700	401,495	432,195	501,280	677.00	1,487.41	10,489.17
1873	16,700	401,340	418,040	477,516	804.61	2,304.44	12,111.24
1874	12,800	392,662	405,462	508,349	811.66	1,148.07	9,384.15
1875	28,000	1,226,389	1,254,389	1,220,420	806.47	525.32	7,989.68
1876	64,563	1,345,699	1,410,262	1,419,848	960.00	1,064.61	9,410.91
1877	27,634	1,283,985	1,311,559	1,266,921	668.75	3,662.49	12,088.02
1878	27,039	1,267,730	1,294,769	1,146,362	674.05	1,012.39	8,716.81
1879	21,400	1,198,300	1,219,700	1,125,564	665.06	2,079.16	10,661.13
1880	24,400	1,135,395	1,159,795	1,139,850	615.64	974.06	8,225.24
1881	18,100	1,086,370	1,104,470	1,053,129	642.70	814.63	6,535.31
1882	7,100	1,066,538	1,073,638	1,300,823	857.25	1,503.91	10,007.42
1883	7,700	1,080,298	1,087,998	1,318,061	1,025.24	714.79	9,733.80
1884	25,200	1,080,875	1,106,075	1,312,160	836.50	1,503.88	9,054.04
1885	26,950	1,054,850	1,081,800	1,236,183	775.52	977.39	9,211.60
1886	26,800	1,045,632	1,072,432	1,290,056	794.70	1,411.77	9,295.15
1887	29,500	1,071,057	1,100,557	1,238,327	741.18	1,269.03	8,453.76
1888	20,100	1,065,857	1,085,957	1,222,427	733.44	6,188.38	13,589.04
1889	16,300	1,063,632	1,079,932	1,264,026	659.06	824.62	7,943.94
1890	12,000	1,070,057	1,082,057	1,202,956	605.91	1,337.02	7,117.04
1891	20,500	1,055,762	1,076,262	1,167,183	743.21	3,062.22	8,082.57
1892	20,700	1,183,020	1,203,720	1,195,685	956.65	660.81	6,962.19
1893	21,000	1,083,942	1,104,942	1,269,067	810.41	1,255.29	9,419.39
1894	19,900	1,083,372	1,103,272	1,267,967	1,115.48	1,703.48	7,163.90
1895	23,600	1,084,812	1,108,412	1,238,132	939.13	1,202.59	8,534.43
1896	26,050	1,079,777	1,105,827	1,522,070	1,139.42	1,508.88	8,800.45
1897	34,000	1,080,247	1,114,247	1,194,522	847.29	1,375.91	7,712.83
1898	30,850	1,078,253	1,109,103	1,200,463	664.44	1,204.03	7,086.24
1899	29,150	1,067,513	1,096,663	1,162,710	931.97	1,983.28	7,939.96
1900	35,150	1,065,869	1,103,836	1,148,289	1,313.95	1,540.43	7,143.30
1901					1,454.13	5,022.29	13,974.33

## **POST OFFICES IN THE TOWN OF ELMA.**

In this statement of the post-offices of the Town of Elma, the date of establishment of the offices, with the names of the persons who have been appointed to the charge of the several offices is herewith given as nearly in the order of their holding the offices, as could be learned from leading residents of the several localities.

The date of the appointments could be accurately learned in but few cases, but the year as given will be found to be correct.

### **ELMA POST OFFICE.**

Established with Warren Jackman as postmaster in Oct., 1852.

Joseph Standart was appointed postmaster in 1860.

Warren Jackman was appointed postmaster in 1861.

W. Wesley Standart was appointed postmaster in 1865.

James Clark was appointed postmaster in 1869.

Mrs. Maria Long was appointed postmaster in 1888.

Louis P. Reuther was appointed postmaster in 1897.

### **EAST ELMA POST OFFICE.**

Established with Fowler Munger postmaster in 1861.

Isaac Gail appointed postmaster in 1862.

East Elma Postoffice was discontinued in 1863.

East Elma Postoffice was re-established with Geo. W. Hatch postmaster in 1870.

George W. Hatch was postmaster for twenty-four years, but the office was under the care of the following resident merchants, viz.: George W. and Niles Hatch, Isaac Smith, Harvey C. Palmer, Edwin H. Dingman, George W. and James Hatch, George W. and Leonard Hatch, and George W. Hatch, when on January 13th, 1894, Hatch sold the store and goods to Charles Burman. Burman was appointed postmaster March 2, 1894.

### **ELMA CENTRE POST OFFICE.**

Established with Erin Woodward as postmaster in 1878.

Henry A. Wright appointed postmaster in 1885.

Peter Grader appointed postmaster in July, 1889.

Henry A. Wright appointed postmaster in 1893.

Frank Sutton appointed postmaster in April 5, 1895.

Mrs. Asa Ford appointed postmaster in July 29, 1899.

### **BLOSSOM POST OFFICE.**

Established with Lewis Kleberg as postmaster in 1870.

Charles Reichert appointed postmaster in 1871.

Conrad P. Hensel appointed postmaster in 1873.  
Frederick Gramm appointed postmaster in 1886.  
William Kleinfelder appointed postmaster in 1888.  
Mrs. Kleinfelder appointed postmaster in 1892.  
Conrad P. Hensel appointed postmaster in 1893.

#### **JAMISON ROAD POST OFFICE.**

Established with Ernst Bleeck as postmaster in 1889.  
Edwin H. Dingman appointed postmaster in 1893.  
Ernst Bleeck appointed postmaster in 1897.

#### **SPRING BROOK POST OFFICE.**

Established with David J. Morris as postmaster in 1848.  
Zenas M. Cobb appointed postmaster in 1849.  
James H. Ward appointed postmaster in 1850.  
Asa J. W. Palmer appointed postmaster in 1854.  
James W. Simons appointed postmaster in 1854.  
Austin Twitchell appointed postmaster in January, 1861.  
James H. Ward appointed postmaster in June, 1861.  
Stephen Northrup appointed postmaster in 1867.  
John G. Fischer appointed postmaster in 1880.  
William J. Cole appointed postmaster in 1885.  
Harrison Tillou appointed postmaster in 1889.  
Richard T. Barnett appointed postmaster in 1893.  
Harrison Tillou appointed postmaster in 1897.

#### **CHURCHES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS.**

The Ebenezer Society built a church for their people who resided at Upper Ebenezer, (now Blossom) as near as can be learned about 1849 or 1850.

When they sold out and left Erie County in 1863 and 1864, the German Evangelical Society of Blossom had the church building. A Lutheran society was organized in Blossom in 1873, and that year they built a church across the street from the German Evangelical Church; that building was burned in 1876, and rebuilt in 1878. All their services are in the German language.

A Lutheran society was organized in 1872, and that year they erected a church building, 20x30 feet, near the south west corner of Lot 40, on the north side of the Woodard Road.

In a few years this house was too small for their congregation. The old church was moved to the east line of their lot, and a new church, 32x56 feet, was built on the same grounds in 1887. The old building has since been used for Sunday-schools. The church services and Sunday-schools are conducted entirely in the German

language, though all the children and more than ninety per cent of the adults understand English as well as than they do the German language, or even better.

All the German churches in the town seem to be imbued with the same spirit; they want the children to learn enough of the German language, so that they can be confirmed, and most of the German parents, care for no further education of their children, either in English or German.

#### **THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

In Spring Brook, a building, 20x30 feet, was erected in 1850, on the southeast corner of the Aurora Plank and Rice Roads, on Lot 71. In 1874 the society needed a larger house, so the old house was moved to the east end of their lot, on the south side of the Rice Road, and has since been used as a barn for the parsonage. The new building was erected in the summer of 1874, and has since that time been used for the services of that society.

#### **THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRING BROOK.**

Rev. Nehemiah Cobb, who had been sent by some Presbyterian Church in Buffalo as a missionary to Spring Brook, held meetings in the schoolhouse in the summer of 1849. As a result of his labors "The First Presbyterian Church" was organized by a committee of the Buffalo Presbytery, on February 6th, 1850. Mr. Cobb, by contributions and subscriptions, gathered materials for a church building, which was erected in 1851 or 1852, on the western part of Lot 75, on land conveyed to the Society by David J. Morris—to revert to said Morris whenever the Society should cease to occupy the premises for church purposes.

The membership of the Society, in 1858, had become so reduced by deaths and removals that regular services were discontinued; most of the few remaining members attending the Presbyterian meetings which were held in the Elma Village schoolhouse, where Rev. William Waith preached every alternate Sunday afternoon. The Spring Brook Society was thus gradually absorbed by the Elma Society. By an order of the Presbytery the Society was disbanded June 5th, 1873. The church property reverted to David J. Morris in 1868.

#### **MOTHER FREIBERG'S CHURCH.**

A Catholic chapel, 10x14 and 8 feet in height, called Mother Freiberg's Church was built on the south end of Lot 46, on the north side of the Clinton Street Road in 1854. The Catholic priest of Lancaster came and held services there twice a year for several



years. Mother Freiberg having moved away, the building was later sold to Gardner Cotton.

### **UNION CHURCH SOCIETY OF SPRING BROOK.**

The Presbyterian Society of Spring Brook having for several years failed to hold meetings in the church built by Rev. Nehemiah Cobb in 1851 or 1852, the property reverted to David J. Morris, in 1868.

In January, 1869, "The Union Church Society of Spring Brook" was organized, and Mr. Morris on January 18th, 1869, conveyed the property to the Union Society. Different denominations held services there but the building was most regularly occupied by the Methodist Society, until 1893 when they bought the German Evangelical Church property. Since 1893 the Union Church building has been unoccupied most of the time.

### **GERMAN EVANGELICAL SOCIETIES.**

The German Evangelical Society of Blossom, organized in 1862, occupied the church built by the Ebenezer Society, on the north side of Main street in Blossom Village, until 1880, when they took down that building, and in its place, erected their new church. They have since that time kept up their church services and Sunday-school in the German language.

The German Evangelical Society of Spring Brook, built their church on the north side of the Aurora Plank Road, near the west end of Lot 75 in 1872. They held services there for several years, but in time the membership became so small that they sold their building and lot to the Methodist Society in 1893.

The German Evangelical Society of Rice Road built their church in 1874 on the north end of Lot 53, and on the south side of the Rice Road, where they have since regularly held their services in the German language. For several years they had a German Sunday-school, but the attendance kept growing less and less, and the school was given up.

In 1898 an English Sunday-school was started in the church, with the consent of the members of the church, which has proved to be very successful. The children of German parents do not like the German language, and will not study it unless they are compelled to do so.

### **THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY OF SPRING BROOK.**

It could not be learned from residents of Spring Brook the date of the organization of this society, but that they had for many years held regular services in the Union Church building, and for



most of these years they have kept up a Sunday-school, generally through the entire year.

In 1893 the society thought best to have a house of their own, over which they could have perfect control, so that year they bought of the German Evangelical Society their building and lot. After making extensive repairs and alterations the building was rededicated December 29th, 1896.

The society have regular services and are, as well as their Sunday-school, in a prosperous condition. During most of these years they have had no resident pastor, but have been supplied from Elma and Aurora, most of the time from Aurora. The names of the several pastors cannot now be given.

#### **EAST ELMA.**

There has never been a church building in East Elma.

A schoolhouse was built in 1856, and all religious meetings and their Sunday-schools have been held in this schoolhouse.

The people have been supplied most of the time by Methodist preachers from Elma and Marilla or by Baptist preachers from Aurora, or by the United Brethren Society of Williston. Occasionally an evangelist or some side preacher would hold meetings for a few days or nights and pass on.

A very prosperous undenominational Sunday-school has been kept up all the year for several years, and at times this Sunday-school constituted the only religious service held in the schoolhouse, or in the place for months together.

#### **PRESBYTERIAN SOCIETY OF ELMA VILLAGE.**

In the summer of 1849 Rev. L. A. Skinner, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Lancaster, commenced preaching in the schoolhouse in Elma Village at 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoons, alternating with Rev. George E. Havens, Methodist minister from Lancaster, and later with Rev. C. S. Baker, who was sent to Lancaster by the Methodist Conference.

Mr. Skinner was obliged to give up the Elma appointment on account of failing health. Rev. Nehemiah Cobb from Spring Brook then took up the work in Elma Village, holding meetings there occasionally until the spring of 1852. In October, 1851, Rev. William Waith became the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Lancaster and he came occasionally to Elma during that winter; in the spring of 1852 he took up regular work, and continued meetings on alternate Sunday afternoons until 1868. In 1858 most of the remaining members of the Presbyterian Church of Spring Brook came to Mr. Waith's meetings in the Elma Village schoolhouse

and in that way the Spring Brook church gradually became a part of the Elma Society. After the Methodist Church was built in Elma Village in 1859, by invitation from that society, the Presbyterians held their services in the church building every alternate Sunday afternoon.

There was never a regularly organized Presbyterian Society of Elma Village, but the Spring Brook members brought their Society with them, and after that time it was generally called the Elma Presbyterian Society.

The Society was disbanded by order of the Presbytery on June 5, 1873, most of the remaining members joining the Lancaster church.

#### **THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ELMA VILLAGE.**

Rev. George E. Havens, who was minister in charge at Lancaster in 1848-1849, was called to Big Flats to preach the funeral sermon of Samantha Standart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Standart, Senior, who died July 15th, 1849. This was the first death of a white person on the Lancaster part of the Reservation, and the first sermon preached in that part of Elma.

Rev. Havens, after that, preached in the schoolhouse to the close of that Conference year.

The M. E. Conference for 1849 sent Rev. C. S. Baker to Lancaster and to supply Bowmansville and Elma with alternate Sunday afternoon services.

In September, 1849, Rev. C. S. Baker organized a "class," comprised of Joseph Briggs, George Standart, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Briggs, Florina Briggs, and Mrs. Olive Standart. The preachers who were sent by the M. E. Conference to Lancaster came to Elma regularly every alternate Sunday afternoon for many years, the meetings being held in the schoolhouse until the church was built.

A Sunday-school was organized in the spring of 1851 by Col. Cyrenus Wilbor (father of Mrs. J. B. Briggs). The meetings of the Sunday-school being at 1 o'clock p. m.

The Methodist Episcopal Society of Elma Village was organized at a meeting held in the schoolhouse December 23, 1853, Rev. Schuyler Parker, pastor, present. The following named persons were duly elected as trustees: Cyrenus Wilbor, James R. Jackman, Joseph B. Briggs, Elon Clark, Warren Jackman, Joseph F. Clark, and Deforest Standart.

Cyrenus Wilbor died September 21st, 1856, age 62 years, 7 months, 6 days.

James R. Jackman died November 24th, 1864, age 71 years, 1 month, 17 days.

Joseph B. Briggs died October 30th, 1898, age 86 years.

Elon Clark died June 7th, 1856, age 34 years, 1 month, 20 days.

Joseph F. Clark died August 22d, 1854, aged 31 years.

Deforest Standart died October 10th, 1864, age 41 years.

The Board of Trustees in the year 1900 consists of Warren Jackman, Cyrus Hurd, Simeon Noyes, Myron H. Clark, George Beidler, and Charles S. Briggs.

The M. E. Church building on the east side of Main Street, in Elma Village, was commenced on July 7th, 1859, and Rev. Gleason Fillmore preached the dedication sermon February 9th, 1860; since which time preaching services and meetings of the Sunday-school have been continuous in the building.

The names of the M. E. preachers who have served with the year of their coming are given below;

Names.	Year.	Names.	Year.
Rev. George E. Havens.	1849	Rev. George M. Harris . . .	1875
Rev. C. S. Baker . . . . .	1849	Rev. John B. Wright . . . . .	1878
Rev. Gustavus Hines . . . . .	1850	Rev. W. H. Henderson . . . . .	1880
Rev. Nelson Reasoner . . . . .	1852	Rev. C. S. Baker . . . . .	1881
Rev. Schyler Parker . . . . .	1853	Rev. J. F. Brown . . . . .	1883
Rev. Gordon . . . . .	1855	Rev. R. L. Robinson . . . . .	1884
Rev. Alonzo Newton . . . . .	1856	Rev. Wallace . . . . .	1885
Rev. Lewis A. Chapin . . . . .	1858	Rev. C. S. Baker . . . . .	1885
Rev. Sheldon H. Baker . . . . .	1859	Rev. Fred Dark . . . . .	1888
Rev. James McClelland . . . . .	1861	Rev. C. Robson . . . . .	1889
Rev. W. H. Shaw . . . . .	1862	Rev. E. W. Shrigley . . . . .	1890
Rev. F. W. Conable . . . . .	1862	Rev. Louis A. Wright . . . . .	1892
Rev. Hiram May . . . . .	1864	Rev. Jabez E. Armstrong . . . . .	1897
Rev. Geo. W. McPherson . . . . .	1868	Rev. S. W. Wyman . . . . .	1899
Rev. P. P. Reese . . . . .	1874	Rev. Jabez E. Armstrong . . . . .	1900

### SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

The Town of Elma, by resolution of the Board of Supervisors at the time the town was formed, was joined to and to be a part of the Second School Commissioner District of Erie County.

On July 16th, 1857, Amos Freeman, the Commissioner of the said Second District, altered and re-numbered the school distirctis in the Town of Elma.

Eleven schoolhouses were in the town at that date, viz.: Three on the Mile Strip, three in the Aurora part of the town, and five in the Lancaster part.

School District No. 1—Schoolhouse on Clinton Street, known as the Cotton District.

School District No. 2—Schoolhouse on Bullis Road, known as the Bullis District.

School District No. 3—Schoolhouse on Jamison Road, known as the East Elma District.

School District No. 4—Schoolhouse on Billington and Williams roads, known as the Hitchcock District.

School District No. 5—Schoolhouse on Plank Road, known as North Star District.

School District No. 6—Schoolhouse on Bowen and Rice roads, known as Woodard District.

School District No. 7—Schoolhouse on Bowen Road, known as the Elma Village District.

School District No. 8—Schoolhouse in Blossom Valley, known as the Blossom District.

School District No. 9—Schoolhouse on Winspear Road, known as the Winspear District.

School District No. 10—Schoolhouse in Spring Brook, known as the Spring Brook District.

School District No. 11—Schoolhouse on Northrup and Paxon roads, known as the Davis District.

A Catholic schoolhouse was built in 1864 on the southeast corner of the Clinton Street and Girdled Roads.

The schoolhouses in 1900 are on the same old sites, except that District No. 11 after a few years was discontinued and the territory joined to two school districts in the town of East Hamburg, and that schoolhouse is gone.

The schoolhouse for DISTRICT No. 1 is on the south side of the Clinton Street Road, about 20 rods east from the Girdled Road, on the north end of Lot No. 20.

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLHOUSE is on the northwest corner of Lot No. 20, and southeast corner of the Clinton Street and Girdled Roads.

DISTRICT No. 2—Schoolhouse is on the north side of the Bullis Road, on top of the hill east of the Big Buffalo Creek, and on south line of Lot 16.

DISTRICT No. 3—Schoolhouse is on the north side of the Jamison Road and south line of Lot 10, about 60 rods east from the East Elma store.

DISTRICT No. 4—Schoolhouse is on the north line of Lot 15 of Mile Strip and on southwest corner of the Williams and Billington Roads.

DISTRICT No. 5—Schoolhouse is on the north line of Lot 28 of the Mile Strip, on southwest side of the Plank Road.

DISTRICT No. 6—Schoolhouse is on the southeast corner of Lot 52, and on northwest corner of the Bowen and Rice Roads.

DISTRICT No. 7—Schoolhouse is on the west side of the Bowen Road, on top of the hill about 50 rods south from the Clinton Street Road.

DISTRICT No. 8—Schoolhouse is in Blossom Village on the south side of the Main Street.

DISTRICT No. 9—Schoolhouse is on the west line of Lot 89, and on the north side of the Winspear Road, about 108 rods north from the Bullis Road.

DISTRICT No. 10—Schoolhouse is in Spring Brook Village, on Lot 75, and on northeast side of the Plank Road.

DISTRICT No. 11—Schoolhouse was located near the centre of Lot 36 of Mile Strip, and on the southwest corner of the Northrup and Paxon roads. This district was united with Districts 8 and 11 of the town of East Hamburg.

The schools in the town are generally what are known as graded schools.

The number of children in the town, on July 1st, 1898, between five and eighteen years of age, as given by the trustees of the several school districts was 578. Of these, 476 attended school in the town some part of the school year, and 46 attended school out of town, making a total of 522 who were in school; the fifty-six who were not in school were mostly between 14 and 16 years of age, and by the school law, were not obliged to be in school, if they were regularly employed.

School expenses for the school year ending July 1st, 1899:  
 Amount paid for teachers' wages..... \$2,644.20  
 Amount paid for other expenses..... 948.54

Total ..... \$3,592.74

By the returns of the trustees of the school districts there were on July 1st, 1899, 558 children in the town between 5 and 18 years of age, being 20 less than on July 1st, 1898.

Number of children in the town between 8 and 16 years of age:  
 On July 1st, 1898. On July 1st, 1899.

Boys . . . . .	219	Boys . . . . .	193
Girls . . . . .	207	Girls . . . . .	188

Total . . . . .	426	Total . . . . .	381
Making a loss in the year of:	Boys 26	Girls 19	Total 45



## APPENDIX.

1901.

January 1901, introduces the 20th century, with five inches of snow, entirely cloudy, temperature 26°, gentle northwest wind.

Harvey J. Hurd died January 25th, burial in the Elma cemetery. By his will he gave \$1,000 to the Investment Fund of the Elma Cemetery Association; the interest of this fund is to be used, perpetually, for the care and improvement of the cemetery grounds.

By his will, his sister, Mrs Harriet D. Rowley, came into full possession of the "Hurd Homestead" and mills, being about 180 acres of land on lots 48, 52, 53 and 57, on the east side of the Bowen Road in Elma Village, and between the Clinton Street and Chair Factory Roads.

Snow or rain fell during a part of every day between December 24th, 1900 and March 11th, 1901; the seventy-eight consecutive days of storm giving seventy-one inches of snow, and with the high winds on many days made travel, especially the turning out to meet teams, very difficult and dangerous.

The town meeting on March 12th was held by election districts; 306 votes were polled in the first district and 218 in the second district; total 524.

Rain and thirty-two inches of snow in April served to continue the roads as the worst in many years.

Mr. O. J. Wannemacher died April 24th; burial in the Catholic cemetery in Spring Brook.

A special town meeting was held in the school house at the corner of the Bowen and Rice Roads on Saturday, April 27th, 1901, to vote on the following five propositions, viz.:

FIRST.—Shall the Town Board be authorized and empowered to effect a settlement and compromise of the claim of Michael Morath for \$10,000 damages for alleged personal injuries by reason of falling through the bridge over Pond Brook on the Chair Factory Road, on or about the 13th day of October 1900, for the sum of \$1,700, together with his necessary and reasonable expenses for physicians and surgeon's attendance from October 13th, 1900, to March 30th, 1901, and to raise and appropriate the same?

SECOND.—The same question to settle the claim of \$10,000 of George Heidenreich, by reason of falling through the same bridge

at the same time for \$500.00 and expenses of physicians and surgeons attendance, between same dates as above?

THIRD.—Shall the Town Board be authorized to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose of building a new bridge across the Cazenove Creek at Northrup mills?

FOURTH.—Same question for authority to raise \$1,000 for construction and maintenance of the highways and bridges of the town?

FIFTH.—Shall the Town of Elma raise and appropriate seven and a half per centum toward the amount required for improving the Aurora Plank Road and the Clinton Street Road through the town, under the provision of Chapter 115 of the Laws of 1898, and the Acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto?

At this special Town Meeting there were 122 votes polled and all the five propositions were voted affirmatively by a majority of 80 to 100. Bad roads were the cause of the light vote.

Farm work was much delayed through April and well into May on account of the ground being too wet to allow of very much plowing and planting.

Apple trees were very shy of blossoms this year and most of the fruit that set dropped early in the season. Pear, plum, cherry, and quince trees blossomed full, but most of the crop was destroyed by heavy rains and winds while the trees were in blossom, the pear being a partial exception.

May 1st was the time set for opening the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, but bad weather and labor strikes caused such delay that May 20th was named as Dedication Day for the "Rainbow City," when 101,687 persons passed through the gates.

The electrical building and tower, illuminated at night by more than 500,000 electric lights, and the plan by which the Exposition buildings and grounds were lighted by electricity made a display far in advance of anything of the kind ever attempted, and were the wonder and admiration of all visitors.

The Commissioner of Highways of the town in May let the contract to furnish and put up a steel and iron bridge across the Cazenove Creek at the Northrup mills, to the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio; the bridge to be 130 feet in length and to be completed in August. The contract price was \$2,800.

The old lattice bridge was torn down in June, a new abutment built at the north end of the bridge; for some reason the iron work was not in place at the close of the year 1901 and people were put to great loss and inconvenience, as it was at times dangerous to ford the stream, especially in cold weather and on dark nights.

The Farmers Club of the Town of Elma was organized in June 1901, with Cornelius McHugh as President, Myron H. Clark as

Vice-president and Rev. George Mason as Secretary and Treasurer.

The frequent showers and warm weather of the latter part of June and first part of July forced vegetation along very rapidly, so that crops on July 10th were as far advanced as in ordinary years; but haying, and the harvesting of wheat, rye, and oats, have all been crowded together between July 8th and 20th.

Melville J. Hurd on July 1st bought of Mrs. Sarah L. Standart her seven acre lot on the east side of the Bowen Road on Lots 58 and 59, just south of Elma Village; and on the same day he bought of James T. Hurd, Myron H. Clark and Mrs. Harriet D. Rowley, executors of the will of Harvey J. Hurd, forty-two acres on the west side of the Bowen Road between John Garby's land and the railroad.

The same day, July 1st, James A. Woodard, George H. Woodard and Mrs. Emma McDonald, bought of the same executors eight and one-half acres, being parts of lots 52 and 60, on the south side of the railroad.

Saturday, July 27th, was "Elma Circus Day," and large crowds of people turned out, afternoon and evening, to attend the second yearly entertainment on the "Bonny Brook" grounds of Mr. R. P. Lee. Fun on a large scale and a great financial success. The Aurora brass band furnished the music.

Simeon Phillips, who lived on Lot No. 6 on the south side of the Clinton Street Road, committed suicide on August 4th by hanging, in the woods a short distance from his house.

As the bridge across Crooked Brook on the Bullis Road had broken down, the Commissioner of Highways put in a steel pipe six feet in diameter and 32 feet long; then on August 10th he let the contract of filling with earth, the space which had been covered by the old bridge.

William Beckman's barn on Lot 20 on the east side of the Girdled Road, on the north side of the Big Buffalo Creek, was struck by lightning and with the hay and grain was burned during the severe thunder storm of Tuesday p. m., August 20th. No insurance.

Yager's barn on lot 65 on south side of the Bullis Road, and Andrew Slade's barn at Elma Centre were struck and slightly injured, and several cattle in different parts of the town were killed by the same storm.

Otis A. Hall's barn on the Lancaster Town Line Road, filled with hay, grain and farm implements, was burned by lightning on Thursday p. m., August 22d; no insurance. Nearly six inches of water fell during the three days, August 20th-22d.

Mrs. Sarah A. Cunningham died August 27th; burial in the Elma cemetery. By her will she gave \$200 to the Elma Cemetery Investment Fund.

The Elma Town Farmers' Club, held its first annual picnic on Labor Day, September 2d, in Luder's grove on Lot 41, on the west side of the Schultz Road. Professor Spencer, representing the agricultural department of Cornell University, gave a very interesting address; subject, "Cultivating the Farm."

The Town Board on Tuesday, September 3d, authorized the Commissioner of Highways to sign a franchise which would give to the Buffalo, Gardenville and Ebenezer Trolley Company the right to build and operate a trolley road in this town along the easterly side of the Aurora and Buffalo Plank Road.

The attendance at the Pan-American Exposition, on September 5th, "Presidents Day" was 116,660.

#### **PRESIDENT WILLIAM McKINLEY.**

President William McKinley, while holding a public reception on Friday afternoon, in the Temple of Music on the Exposition grounds, was shot by Leon F. Czolgosz, (pronounced Sholl-Goss) an avowed Anarchist 28 years of age.

The President was taken to the Exposition hospital, where his wounds were dressed, thence to the home of John G. Milburn, at the corner of Delaware Avenue and Ferry Street, where he died at 2.15 o'clock, Saturday morning, September 14th, 1901. Age, 58 years, 7 months, 15 days.

Funeral services were held at the Milburn home at 11 o'clock a. m., Sunday, September 15th, and at 11.55 the procession left Ferry Street for the City Hall, arriving there at 1 o'clock, where the body of the President lay in state until 10.55 p. m., when more than 100,000 persons had looked upon the face of the dead President and the doors of the building were closed, guards were placed and the body remained through the night in the City Hall.

At 7.45 a. m., Monday, September 16th, the funeral procession, under military and police escort, proceeded to the New York Central depot on Exchange Street where a train of seven coaches of the Pennsylvania Railroad was in waiting.

The train left Buffalo at 8.34 o'clock, passing Elma station at 9.03 a. m., arriving in Washington that evening.

The body lay in state in the Capitol until Wednesday evening, September 18th when the funeral train in two sections left Washington, arriving in Canton, Ohio, on Thursday forenoon, September 19th. The final services were held in the Canton cemetery at 3 o'clock that afternoon. At that hour all business throughout the country was generally brought to a halt.

On nearly every railroad, orders had been issued for every train, passenger and freight, to stop wherever they might be for five minutes, and these orders were obeyed.



## PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

At the home of Mr. Ansley Wilcox, at the corner of Delaware Avenue and North Street in Buffalo, at 3.35 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, September 14th, 1901, Vice-president Theodore Roosevelt took the oath of office as the 26th President of the United States.

Before taking the oath of office he said: "I wish to state that it shall be my aim to continue, absolutely unbroken, the policy of President McKinley for the peace and prosperity and honor of our beloved country.

The oath was administered by Judge John R. Hazel of the United States District Court.

Immediately after taking the oath of office, President Roosevelt asked the members of President McKinley's Cabinet who were present, to remain as his Cabinet, at least for the present. They all decided to comply with his request.

As the final burial services of President McKinley were to be at Canton, Ohio, on Thursday, September 19th, President Roosevelt designated that day as a day for humiliation and prayer, and requested the people to assemble at their places of worship and appropriately observe the day.

A great, a noble, an honest Christian has left us. The people mourn, but the Government at Washington still lives.

As an over-ruling Providence can order that good shall come out of evil, it is hoped by this act of assassination of the President, that Anarchy has inflicted a death blow upon itself, at least in these United States.

The Pan-American Exposition closed on November 2d, 1901. Paid admissions, 5,306,859; free, 2,813,189. Total, 8,120,048.

Voting machines were used in the two election districts in this town at the general election held November 5th, 1901—168 votes in the First District; 149 in the Second District. Total 317.

Farmers have never had a nicer fall than this year has given them in which to secure their large crops of corn and potatoes, and to do other fall work.

The potato crop has been the largest ever raised in the town, and farmers have never realized such high prices as in the fall of 1901; 50 cents to 75 cents per bushel at the railroad stations for shipment, and 60 cents to \$1.00 per bushel in Buffalo.

The wholesale market price for farm produce on December 18th was: Wheat, 80 to 90 cents; corn, 70 to 72 cents; oats, 52 cents; beans, \$2.60 per bushel; butter 26 cents per pound; eggs, 26 cents per doz; hay, \$15.00; rye straw, \$10.00 per ton; apples, \$4.00 to \$5.75 per barrel. These prices are nice for the farmer but very high for the buyer.



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